

# STARS AND STRIPES.®

Volume 73, No. 81 © SS 2014 MIDEAST EDITION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2014

[stripes.com](http://stripes.com)

Free to Deployed Areas



ISMAEL PEÑA/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Members of the U.S. 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and Japan Ground Self-Defense Force practice techniques during the Japan Observer Exchange Program on Okinawa July 16.

## Body of slain general arrives in US

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — The body of Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene, the first general officer killed in foreign hostilities since 1970, arrived at Dover Air Force Base on Thursday from Afghanistan.

Six soldiers slowly carried a transfer case with his remains past Army Secretary John McHugh and Army Chief of Staff

Ray Odierno and placed it in a truck that carried it to the Air Force-run mortuary on the base.

The movement was carried out in customary silence, but afterward, soft sobs could be heard as members of the general's immediate family boarded the aircraft to thank the crew for taking care of Greene on his final flight.

It is unclear what led the shooter, identified as a man in his 20s,

to hide Tuesday in a bathroom at the military training base near the Afghan capital, then emerge and open fire on a delegation of visiting American and European military officers before being shot dead himself.

Greene's death was the latest in what is a persistent problem endemic to Westerners training Afghan recruits: insider attacks.

**SEE GENERAL ON PAGE 3**



CHRIS CARROLL/Stars and Stripes

Dignitaries watch as the remains of Army Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene are transferred at Dover Air Force Base, Del., on Thursday.

### FACES

Jack Antonoff takes break from fun. to pursue solo project

**Page 18**



### MILITARY

National Guard says it's cutting NASCAR, IndyCar sponsorships

**Page 7**



### WORLD

NATO chief warns Russians to 'step back from the brink'

**Page 10**

**US considering airdrops, military options to help trapped Iraqis » Page 11**

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Then I cut him ...  
I did what the Army  
taught me to do."

— Statement to police by William Earl Cunningham, 63, who is charged in the throat-slashing death of another man while they were arguing over which branch of the United States military was better, the Army or the Marines

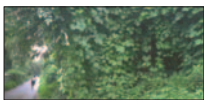
See story on Page 9

## TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories  
on our website:

1. Army begins questioning Bergdahl about disappearance, Taliban capture
2. Marine Corps special operators renamed 'Marine Raiders'
3. Ebola fears spread to Bahrain
4. Hagel: Killing of Army major general by Afghan will not alter US drawdown plans
5. Military identifies 21st TSC soldier killed in German car crash

## COMING SOON



### Science & Medicine

Kudzu that ate South heads  
nurs as climate changes

## TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup .....	19
Business .....	20
Comics .....	21
Crossword .....	21
Faces .....	18
Faith .....	18
Opinion .....	22-23
Sports .....	24-32
Weather .....	20

## MIDEAST

# Kerry to meet with Afghan candidates

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Secretary of State John Kerry arrived here Thursday to urge progress on a power-sharing agreement between the country's two presidential contenders, even as the Afghan government and international observers continue to review election results to determine a winner.

Spokesmen for Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani said their candidates would speak with Kerry on Thursday evening. Kerry is also scheduled to meet with President Hamid Karzai, according to a U.S. official with knowledge of his schedule.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. State Department said Kerry's trip also was meant to encourage the candidates to speed up the election review process.

Kerry brokered an agreement between the two camps in July after allegations of corruption by Abdullah, who in a June runoff finished second to Ghani by roughly 1 million votes. Part of the agreement was the review of every vote cast in the runoff, a

process that continued this week despite a shaky start and confusion over the criteria for invalidating ballots.

The agreement also called for the formation of a so-called national unity government involving the losing candidate. Under the deal, the candidate who loses the runoff would be allowed to pick an individual to serve in a "chief executive" position. That individual, whose powers have yet to be enumerated, would report to the president and could be removed only by a decision of the Loya Jirga — a traditional assembly of tribal leaders from across the country — called by the president.

Such a division of power would be a first in Afghanistan, which is divided along ethnic lines and has traditionally seen power concentrated in a single individual. Ghani's campaign, which is believed to draw more support from



Kerry

the country's Pashtun majority, originally said it would delay talks on a unity government until after the election review was finished. Abdullah's campaign, which pushed for the new government structure, has charged that Ghani wasn't acting in good faith on the agreement by delaying the discussions.

As the election review continues, both sides have met in recent days to discuss the power-sharing framework, according to the U.S. official. Kerry's visit is meant to check the progress of those talks, said the official, who did not have permission to speak to the media and asked not to be named.

The visit underlines U.S. urgency for a resolution to the dispute and a peaceful transition of power as the country fights an entrenched insurgency and suffers from a stunted economy after decades of war.

The vote recount, beset by delays as the two sides fight over rules and trade accusations, appears to have picked up pace in the past few days. The U.S. Embassy in Kabul said Thursday that election reviewers have investigated 18 percent of the 22,828 ballot

boxes used in the election, including those from Kabul, Kandahar, Logar and Paktika provinces. All of the boxes had been delivered to examiners by Tuesday, according to the embassy. Officials have said they hope to finish the review by Aug. 25.

Kerry's trip comes days after an Army major general was slain by an Afghan gunman during a visit to a training base in Kabul. Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene was the highest-ranking officer killed in an enemy attack overseas since the Vietnam War. The attack also wounded more than a dozen NATO troops, including a German general, and Afghan military officials.

The NATO military coalition repeated Thursday that it couldn't release further details on the attack because of an ongoing investigation. News reports citing coalition officials have said the attacker was an Afghan soldier who hid and waited for the visiting delegation and fired his automatic weapon from a distance.

Zubair Babarkarkhail contributed to this report.  
beardsley.steven@stripes.com  
Twitter: @sjbeardsley

# Hagel visits India to pursue military projects

By LOLITA C. BALDOR  
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel arrived in India Thursday to press for a number of new weapons agreements, including a pilot plan for the two nations to jointly develop a next-generation anti-tank missile.

The development initiative is part of a broader U.S. effort to improve what often has been a rocky relationship with India, the world's largest democracy and a major player in Asia.

Hagel's visit follows a similar stop in the country last week by Secretary of State John Kerry and Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker aimed at wooing a key ally in Asia, in part as a possible countermeasure to China. Hagel plans to meet with top Indian leaders and business executives and explore plans for the co-

development of a Javelin missile that is cheaper, lighter and more capable.

Speaking to reporters traveling with him Thursday en route to New Delhi, Hagel said he recognizes India's intent to maintain its independence and to develop its own industrial base.

"No country wants to be seen as a second cousin" to the United States, Hagel said, adding that the U.S. must find ways to "adjust to what India's political requirements are, how they want to handle the relationship."

Hagel also expects to meet with newly elected India Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Modi was denied an American visa in 2005 after being accused of complicity in religious riots that killed more than 1,000 Muslims three years earlier in the country's western Gujarat state,

where he was serving as the top elected official. "India has many options to do many things with different partners," Hagel said. "This is a high priority for me."

Hagel said he also wants to talk about doing more joint military exercises with India and to get a better understanding of what projects India wants to pursue with the U.S. The U.S. wants to partner with India as it modernizes its military, but India seems more interested in co-development opportunities than in simply buying American-made weapons. Accompanying Hagel in India is Frank Kendall, the defense undersecretary for acquisition who is leading the new initiative.

Foreign military sales to India have grown substantially in recent years, totaling more than \$9 billion since 2008 and including cargo planes, helicopters and

missiles.

But progress on other agreements has been slow. In recent years, the U.S. and India have sparred over a wide range of issues, from trade deals and visa restrictions to the regulation of chemical emissions into the environment.

The war in Afghanistan also has frayed relations with India as the U.S. pursued an often uneasy alliance with Pakistan, pressing Islamabad to go after Taliban insurgents launching attacks against coalition forces across the Afghan border. Pakistan and India — both nuclear-armed — have battled in three major wars since their partition in 1947. But more recently, they have taken some steps to improve relations.

This is the second stop on Hagel's trip, which also will include a visit to Australia.

### EXCLUSIVE DEALER IN THE FAR EAST AND MIDDLE EAST

## SPECIAL SERVICE CREDIT UNION AND VOLVO US MILITARY SALES PROMOTION



US Military  
Sales  
www.usmilsales.com

Stateside delivery available.  
Order overseas.

### Easy ways to apply.

- ▶ Online at [servicecu.org](http://servicecu.org)
- ▶ By phone 24/7 at 0800.4728.2000

RATES AS LOW AS

**.89%<sup>\*</sup>**  
APR

**SERVICE  
CREDIT UNION**

★★★★★

Follow us on social media

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA

\*Rate shown is Annual Percentage Rate (APR) and is a special promotional rate offered to US Military Sales customers. Prior purchases and existing Service Credit Union loans excluded. Rate is accurate as of 8/23/2014. Offer ends 9/23/2014 and is subject to change or be discontinued without notice. Rate shown indicates a 13% reduction for military direct debit and automatic payment (example: 1.24% APR less .35% = .89%). Example: A \$15,000 auto loan with a rate of .89% APR for 60 months. Monthly payment is approximately \$255.71. Total finance charge is approximately \$342.14. Loan approval and APR subject to credit worthiness. Floor rate is .89%. No other discounts apply. Direct deposit of entire net pay and automatic payment must be maintained. Individual must be a member of Service Credit Union. Qualifying member must apply, qualify and be approved for a Service Credit Union loan. Approval based on credit worthiness. If total income requirements equal \$600 or more in a taxable year, the loan with net pay can use a 1099-MISC. Certain restrictions apply on dealer financing. Promos, non-commercial loan rates and terms are excluded from this promotion. Offer subject to change without notice.

## MIDEAST



PHOTOS BY CHRIS CARROLL/Stars and Stripes

Family members approach the plane carrying the remains of Army Maj. Gen. Harold Greene on Thursday at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

## General: Attack unlikely to alter operations

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Attacks by Afghan forces on their coalition partners — the Long Wars Journal has counted 87 since 2008 — reached a peak in 2012. That's when the U.S. military imposed security and educational measures intended to protect coalition troops from the very people they are supposed to help. Until Tuesday's attack, those measures were thought to have been successful; it had been six months since a uniformed Afghan had attacked American soldiers.

But Tuesday's attack raised questions about whether the respite was because of the increased security measures or whether it was just the benefit of the drop in U.S. interactions with Afghan soldiers occasioned by the draw-down of American troops.

A German brigadier general and a senior Afghan commander also were among the wounded, as were 15 other Western troopers.

The German officer has been identified as Brig. Gen. Michael Bartscher, 56, adviser to the so-called Ministerial Advisory Group, which advises the Afghan defense ministry. He was taken to the German field hospital at Mazar-e-Sharif on Wednesday. His condition remains stable. A decision about transporting him to Germany will be made in the next few days, according to German army officials.

Of the 15 wounded, eight were American. Their conditions could not be ascertained by deadline.

Echoing the statements made by U.S. officials in recent days, Ambassador Maurits Jochems, the Dutch diplomat who is NATO's senior civilian representative in Afghanistan, said that



An Army carry team transfers the remains of Army Maj. Gen. Harold Greene on Thursday at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

although the investigation is still ongoing, he doesn't expect the attack to have a lasting impact on the coalition's operations.

"The number of insider attacks over the past year or so has diminished quite significantly," he told reporters in Kabul on Wednesday. If anything, Jochems said, he expects it to strengthen the resolve of international troops to honor the sacrifice by Greene and others.

With the overall number of insider attacks — and American casualties in general — much lower than in previous years, Greene's death is unlikely to make much of a difference to an American public already soured on Afghanistan, said Anthony Cordesman, with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"Particularly in the United States, a general will get more at-

tention, but Americans won't be any more disturbed by the war," he said. "It reminds them that the war exists, but it doesn't impact how the war is going."

He said the shooting should be viewed in the context of a sustained, and even growing, level of overall violence in Afghanistan, rather than as any harbinger of an increase in insider attacks.

"The problem is not so much green-on-blue, but rather the overall major increase in high-profile attacks," Cordesman said. "It indicates a greater insurgent presence in more areas. It shows that this war isn't transitioning into peace. It's a very serious conflict that is still going on."

Stars and Stripes reporters Josh Smith, Chris Carroll, and Jon Harper and the McClatchy news service contributed to this report.

# Afghan troops' rocky past offers clues in shooting

By PAMELA CONSTABLE  
The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Maj. Gen. Harold Greene, the highest-ranking U.S. military officer killed in a war zone in four decades, died not at the hand of a sworn enemy but from a burst of gunfire by a soldier in an allied army who had been largely paid, trained and equipped with American and NATO support.

It will probably never be known what led the shooter, identified as a man in his 20s, to hide in a bathroom at a military training base near the capital Tuesday, then emerge and open fire on a delegation of visiting American and European military officers, before being shot dead, himself.

It was also unclear what provoked two other "insider attacks" this week: a freight Tuesday between Afghan police and NATO troops near the governor's office in southern Paktia province, and an incident Wednesday in Uruzgan province in which an Afghan police officer poisoned his colleagues' food and then shot at least seven of them before fleeing in a police truck, officials said.

But the troubled 11-year history of the post-Taliban Afghan security forces, including the Afghan army, offers an ample range of possible explanations for such deeply disturbing incidents, whether aimed at Afghan cohorts or foreign military dignitaries.

The army, the most professional and popular of the new defense forces, has drawn recruits from across the country who have been expected to replace local and ethnic loyalties with adherence to a national government and its defense. The aim has been to forge an army of about 80,000 men and officers who could be weaned from foreign tutelage by now and prepared to take on the Taliban alone, then gradually grow to as many as 200,000 troops.

From the beginning, however, the project has been plagued with problems. Soldiers have gone AWOL and deserted in high numbers. Ethnic imbalances between officers and troops have fueled some army faction. Equipment has been old and expensive to replace.

Perhaps most problematic, the American mentors who have "embedded" with Afghan units were slow to arrive, and Afghan fighting traditions — honed over decades of anti-Soviet guerrilla combat and civil war — have been both more brutal and egalitarian than the orderly American ethos of haircuts, salutes and predawn drills.

In a 2009 report on the state of the Afghan army, the Rand Corp. and the Royal Danish Defense

College found that although steady improvements were being made in professional skills and combat readiness, the army was still very much a "work in progress" and would need continued international support for the foreseeable future. Despite significant gains in some areas, the report said, "operational effectiveness remains very much in the balance."

Five years later, some problems have eased, but others have arisen. American military officials report that Afghan troops participate in all combat operations against the Taliban and lead at least half of them. The domestic population of the force has grown, pay has increased and desertions have shrunk. But reports of high-level corruption have soured morale below, and enthusiasm for the fight has faltered as Taliban insurgents have become better armed and more rapacious.

One of the most serious developments has been the spread of insider attacks, in which Afghan personnel have opened fire on their foreign military counterparts. The phenomenon became noticeable in 2008 and surged for the next several years. In 2012, there were 60 such attacks, including the fatal shooting of two American advisers by a government worker inside the Interior Ministry. By June of this year, 87 insider attacks had killed 142 coalition troops and wounded an additional 165, according to the Long War Journal, an online publication focused on counterterrorism and Islamic radicalism.

The motives behind these attacks have ranged widely. In some cases, insurgents infiltrated the services and waited for a chance to attack foreign troops. In others, Afghan soldiers and police attacked their American trainers after taking offense at certain orders or perceived insults. Some have been angered by civilian bombings or looting of homes being burned at U.S. bases. Others have professed Taliban sympathies or rallied at U.S. foreign policy in the Islamic world.

The fatal attack Tuesday was an acute embarrassment to the Afghan army and its American mentors. It occurred inside the Afghan equivalent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and was aimed at a Western VIP delegation that had come to assess the army's progress in being able to defend the nation as Western forces were to leave.

Afghan officials said the shooter, who used the single name Rafiqullah, had just returned from a patrol about midway and was still carrying his weapon when he concealed himself in a bathroom within close range of the delegation and then opened fire.



## MILITARY



Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

A Japan Ground Self Defense Force member performs reconnaissance during Rim of the Pacific Exercise in July.

## Japan build amphibious force with help of US

By SETH ROBSON and CHIYOMI SUMIDA  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The U.S. Marine Corps on Okinawa has spent more than two years helping Japan set up an amphibious force geared toward defense of islands in the East China Sea, according to U.S. and Japanese officials.

Members of the Japan Ground Self Defense Force have been observing and participating in amphibious training with U.S. Marines on Okinawa since 2012, U.S. and Japanese officials said in response to questions about the force. The training — off limits to media — is part of Japanese efforts to develop, in the next five years, an amphibious capability that includes new helicopter carriers and landing craft, along with a 3,000-strong army unit modeled on the U.S. Marine Corps.

The build-up has been taking place amid tensions in the East China Sea, where China has challenged Japan's claim to the Senkaku Islands (known as Diaoyu by the Chinese) nearby oil and gas resources.

As part of that build-up, more than 200 Japanese soldiers practiced amphibious landings at Camp Pendleton, Calif., with U.S. Marines in the Iron First exercise in February. Then, Japanese troops stormed beaches in Hawaii during last month's Rim of the Pacific Exercise.

Additionally, 30 Japanese troops from the 12th Infantry Regiment out of Camp Kokubu in Kagoshima prefecture were on Okinawa from June 23 through Thursday observing and taking part in U.S. amphibious training, according to a Japanese Defense Ministry spokesman.

The Japanese platoon had been working with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, Capt. Garon Garn, a public affairs officer with the Okinawa-based 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The Japanese have been watching the Marines train with a variety of aircraft, rubber raiding boats and amphibious assault vehicles. They've also practiced swimming and martial arts together.

It is the third group of Japanese troops to do amphibious training alongside the U.S. Marines, Garn said.

The training — under the auspices of the

Japanese Observer Exchange Program — allows the Japanese to observe small-unit tactics and amphibious operations as well as enhance their ability to operate alongside U.S. forces, he said.

Operating from amphibious ships requires a lot of planning, coordination, synchronization and communication, Garn said.

"There are numerous challenges inherent to amphibious operations, from unpredictable weather to coordinating the efforts of literally thousands of Marines and sailors," Garn said. "The integration with JGSDF soldiers demonstrates the continued commitment of the United States and Japan to increasing interoperability of our militaries and maintains a strong partnership to enable a bilateral response to future challenges."

The training has, for the most part, been conducted in and around U.S. facilities on Okinawa, although Japanese troops did embark on U.S. amphibious ships in 2012 and participated in an exercise on Guam in past years. The Japanese may increase the size of the force training with the Marines for future iterations, Garn said.

A Japanese Defense Ministry spokesman said JGSDF troops are most interested to learn the landing skills and boat handling that might be needed to defend an outlying island. Japan's fiscal year 2014 defense budget included funding to establish an "Amphibious Rapid Deployment Preparatory Unit," with about \$3 million earmarked for enhancing the amphibious capabilities of two Osuno-class transport vessels and an Izumo-class destroyer, the spokesman said.

The SDF also purchased four amphibious assault vehicles, each capable of transporting 25 troops, from the U.S. in 2013. And, this fiscal year — which began in April — Japan plans to spend \$17 million on two

more amphibious assault vehicles which will be used for command and communication and vehicle recovery.

Ultimately Japan plans to acquire 52 such vehicles, the spokesman said.

Japan's Western Army Regiment, based in Sasebo, includes 700 personnel training for amphibious operations, but the goal is to produce a 3,000-member amphibious force, Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera said in comments provided by the Defense Ministry.

"We hope to establish the amphibious force as soon as possible," Onodera said, during a visit to the regiment's headquarters, Camp Ainoara, in March. "We will continue to develop talented personnel and prepare for the formation of said force making use of the past experience at Camp Ainoara and through joint exercises with the U.S. side, especially the U.S. Marine Corps."

The force will have two major tasks, he said.

"Japan has numerous islands including many remote islands," Onodera said. "As they are the basis for Japan's exclusive economic zone, which is the sixth-largest in the world, it is vital for us to defend them."

The amphibious force will also be helpful in disaster relief operations.

Japan has yet to determine where its amphibious force will be based.

"So far, from the perspective of the defense of remote islands, we are considering either Kyushu or the southwestern region," Onodera said.

Where the amphibious force will train in Japan is also uncertain, although there are plans to continue joint exercises with the U.S. Marines in California and on Guam, the Defense Ministry spokesman said.

robson.seth@stripes.com  
Twitter: @SethRobson1

**Japan has numerous islands including many remote islands. As they are the basis for Japan's exclusive economic zone, which is the sixth-largest in the world, it is vital for us to defend them.**

Itsunori Onodera  
Japanese minister of defense

## Eite units renamed for 'Marine Raiders'

By JON HARPER  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — In honor of their legendary World War II predecessors, Marine Corps special operations will now be referred to as "Marine Raiders" according to a proclamation issued Wednesday by Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James Amos.

The original Raiders, formed after the attack on Pearl Harbor to fight behind enemy lines, battled Japanese troops from 1942 to 1944. Members of the elite force earned seven Medals of Honor for their heroism during the war, according to the Marine Corps. Some consider the four Raider battalions that fought in the Pacific to be America's very first special operations units.

"United States Marines take great pride in our special operations and irregular warfare heritage ... From this point forward, the Marines of MARSOC will be officially aligned with the Marine Raiders of World War II and are charged with maintaining the high standards and traditions that accompany such distinction," Amos said.

Maj. Gen. Mark Clark, the outgoing commander of Marine Corps Special Operations, embraced the new name at a MARSOC change of command ceremony.

"We are proud and honored to adopt the name Marine Raider, carrying on the rich heritage passed along to MARSOC by the Raiders of World War II," he said, according to a Marine Corps press release. "As with every Marine Corps unit, MARSOC desires a moniker that creates its own unique identity that is based on Marine Corps heritage and enables Marines to trace the legacy of those Marines who served before them."

Much like the Raiders units, which were created at a time of crisis, MARSOC was established in 2003 as the demand for special operators skyrocketed during the post-9/11 wars.

Although the command itself will still be officially known as MARSOC, subordinate elements will carry the Raider moniker, such as Marine Raider Regiment and Marine Raider Battalion.

The change comes as the number of living Raider veterans continues to decline.

In the news release announcing the change, the Marine Corps said the move was partly an effort to fulfill a desire by members of the original Raiders to have their name carried on by the Marines.

"No military unit in the history of the United States brought more honor and glory to themselves, more pride to their countrymen, and more grief to their enemies as the four United States Marine Raider Battalions of World War II. It is imperative that their heritage and exploits live long past the surviving Raiders," the U.S. Marine Raider Association and Foundation stated on its official website.

Clark said the Marines are determined to carry the torch.

"The Marine Raiders have chosen MARSOC to be the holder of their legacy," he said at the change of command ceremony. "We feel we owe it to those Marine Raiders still living and their families to make every attempt to do so."

harper.jon@stripes.com  
Twitter: @JHarperStripes



## MILITARY



PHOTOS BY JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

President Barack Obama signed legislation that overhauls the Department of Veterans Affairs' health care system Thursday in front of servicemembers at Fort Belvoir, Va.

# Obama: VA law 'covers a lot of ground'

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday signed into law a \$16.3 billion plan to overhaul the troubled nationwide health care system run by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In a speech at Fort Belvoir, Va., Obama said the law is an important step toward reforming a dysfunctional agency that has outraged Americans, but cautioned that much more work is needed to fix chronically long wait times for veteran patients and systemic wrongdoing among staff.

"This will not and cannot be the end of our effort," Obama said. "Implementing this bill will take time. It will take focus from all of us."

The massive reform package has been a rare instance of bipartisanship in Washington and won overwhelming support in both chambers of Congress in late July, just three months after delays in veteran health care exploded into a national scandal. It dramatically expands veteran access to private care, adds medical staff and facilities, and streamlines the firing of VA executives found to be incompetent or guilty of manipulating patient data.

"It's a good deal," Obama said. "This bill covers a lot of ground."

The law will pay private health care providers \$10 billion to treat vets who cannot get VA appointments within 30 days of requests or who live more than 40 miles from a VA health care facility.

Another \$5 billion will go to hiring new VA doctors — including specialty care physicians — nurses, mental health professionals and other medical staff. The remaining \$1.27 billion would primarily pay for 27 new medical centers in 18 states and Puerto Rico.

Obama received a loud round of applause when he mentioned a measure in the law aimed at cracking down on management misconduct.

The law allows new VA Secretary Robert McDonald to fire senior executives at will and those federal employees now have just

seven days to appeal a termination and an administrative judge would be required to rule on the appeal within three weeks. In the past, the process typically took months.

Comprehensive reviews of the entire VA health care system including its antiquated electronic appointment system, a \$360 million annual cap on employee bonuses, and more funding for sexual assault treatment programs are also tucked into the law.

The overhaul will ring up about \$10 billion in new deficit spending during the coming decade but only attracted the scattered opposition of a handful of fiscal hawks in Congress. About \$4.46 billion of the bill's total \$16.3 billion price tag will be covered by cuts from elsewhere in the existing VA budget.

Obama said the law follows on the heels of a renewed VA effort to fix its health care system, which serves about 200,000 patients a day and is the largest of its kind in the United States.

"We've already taken the first steps to changing the way VA does business," he said.

Obama said the VA has reached out to hundreds of thousands of veterans who have been guaranteed lifetime health care after military service but been unable to get treatment.

The confirmation of McDonald

last month was part of the effort to rebuild the VA's leadership team, he said.

McDonald, a former Procter & Gamble CEO, attended the signing with Obama and was scheduled to make his first visit to a VA medical facility Friday when he meets with veterans and staff at a Phoenix hospital.

That facility became the epicenter of the department scandal in April when a doctor alleged secret patient waiting lists might have led to 40 deaths. On Saturday, the secretary was slated to visit the VA's newest medical center in Las Vegas.

Earlier this week, McDonald called for town hall meetings at VA facilities across the country "to listen and learn directly from those who use our system," according to a released statement.

VA Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson, who headed the agency for two months following the resignation of Gen. Eric Shinseki, visited hospitals and clinics across the country and was continuing the visits this month.

During a Wednesday public appearance in Denver, Gibson repeated a claim that the VA can solve its problems and regain the trust of veterans within two years,

The Associated Press reported.

That claim has been met with skepticism on Capitol Hill. The access crisis in the veteran health care system has been deep and persistent.

The VA has reported it was juggling 6 million appointments in mid-July and more than 636,000 of those patients had been waiting more than a month for care — an increase of about 45,000 in such delays from May when the country was first learning of the crisis, according to the most recent data published by the department.

tritten.travis@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Travis\_Tritten

## Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!



Concerts, events, TV, movies, music, video games, celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

Read  
STARS AND STRIPES  
online at  
[stripes.com](http://stripes.com)

STARS AND STRIPES  
However you read us, wherever you need us.

## PACIFIC

# Nations standing up against proliferation

## Exercise demonstrates international resolve to end trafficking of WMD

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — Armed teams from Japan, South Korea and the U.S. boarded a ship Wednesday during a mock search for weapons of mass destruction about 10 miles off the coast of Honolulu.

The at-sea drill was part of the inaugural Fortune Guard exercise, which sprang out of the 2003 Proliferation Security Initiative. President George W. Bush launched the initiative in the wake of growing concern over the inability of nations to legally seize WMDs being smuggled across the seas — even after ships had been stopped and searched.

More than 100 nations have now endorsed the PSI, which seeks to curtail the illegal trade.

Wednesday's drill, which was observed by about 50 participants from 18 countries in the Pacific region, was held for two reasons, said Lt. Commander David Leather, who works for U.S. Pacific Command on issues involving WMD.

First, the search-and-seize drills demonstrate capabilities that other endorsing nations might want to develop, he said. Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and the

U.S. are considered "operational experts" among the endorsing nations of the Pacific.

But the drill is also being held in a public forum because it "demonstrates to possible proliferators that there is a core group of nations out there — likeminded nations — that are not going to stand for proliferation," Leather said.

For the sea drill, the USNS Henry J. Kaiser, a military refueling ship, posed as a commercial tanker.

"This drill is specifically directed at a large commercial ship that may be carrying something that could be used in the production of WMDs," Leather said. "So it's not looking for the shiny bomb."

Boarding was done in three separate phases, with each country's team working independently.

The U.S. Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team-Honolulu wrapped things up by "detecting" uranium-238 in a shipping container.

The heavily armored and armed Guardsmen each carried a radiation "pager" device that automatically beeps when a certain level of radioactivity is detected, said Paul Frantz, the team's commander. Some radiation is naturally emitted, while



PHOTOS BY WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

**Above:** A member of the U.S. Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team-Honolulu helps secure the deck of the USNS Henry J. Kaiser, which posed as a ship illegally transporting weapons of mass destruction during the weeklong Fortune Guard exercise in Hawaii. **Below:** A member of the South Korean navy boarding team frisks two officers of the Royal Australian Navy during the exercise.

others might emanate from fissile material that could be used for nuclear weapons.

"From there they use the secondary equipment to isolate the isotope and are able to send that back to an agency that can identify it and determine if it's naturally occurring or not," Frantz said. "From there you can look at the manifest and determine whether that should be there or not."

Fortune Guard will be held next year in New Zealand, followed by Singapore, Australia, Japan and South Korea.

"We want to make sure that it's happening on an annual basis, that the drumbeat continues," Leather said.

olson.wyatt@stripes.com



## Officials: Mosquito season may be looming in S. Korea

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Officials are warning that the seasonal threat of mosquito-borne illnesses could be ramping up after Typhoon Nakri dumped heavy rain over South Korea last week.

The Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a nationwide warning this week for Japanese encephalitis, a virus transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes, and urged people to take precautions, including vaccinations when appropriate.

Relatively low rainfall this year has wiped out most of the mosquito population in South Korea, but that could change after Typhoon Nakri's deluges.

"The mosquito population has definitely been much reduced this year compared to previous years," said Col. Hee-Choon Sam Lee, chief of Force Health Protection and Preventive Medicine for the 65th Medical Brigade. "With the rains that just came, mosquitoes may rebound, and it could become an issue all the way through October."

A KCDC statement cited an

increased number of mosquitoes found to be carrying Japanese encephalitis in the southeastern city of Busan.

Symptoms can include brain inflammation, headaches, high fever, disorientation, coma, tremors and convulsions, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The last reported case of Japanese encephalitis in the military community was in 2012, when an Air Force retiree working in Korea as a contractor died of the disease, Lee said.

Other mosquito-borne illnesses are a concern in some parts of South Korea, including malaria, which is considered more of a threat and occasionally affects U.S. troops stationed along the Demilitarized Zone.

The KCDC said people could cut their risks by using mosquito repellent, wearing long sleeves and pants when participating in outdoor activities and not going out at night to places where mosquitoes are prevalent.

The Center also recommended that children aged 12 months to 13 years old be vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis.

rowland.ashley@stripes.com  
chang.yooyong@stripes.com

## DBA LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR FREE

INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS

The Law Offices of Barnett & Lerner, P.A.  
**KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS**

### INJURED CIVILIAN WORKERS

If you work for a company under contract with the United States Government outside the U.S., and fall ill or are injured at work, you may be entitled to benefits under the **Defense Base Act**. This law protects all **injured employees, regardless of their citizenship or nationality**. Under law, you may be entitled to select a doctor and you may be entitled to wages if unable or restricted from working.

### DON'T BE FOOLED BY FANCY WEBSITES

Before hiring an attorney, check their trial experience at [www.oalj.doi.gov](http://www.oalj.doi.gov). Type "David C. Barnett" or "Barry Lerner" in the "For" box on the top right side of the home page and you will find over 300 rulings after trial. **NO ONE CAN MATCH OUR EXPERIENCE**

**Barnett & Lerner**  
Professional Association  
Fighting for injured workers

**HIRE US ON YOUR COMPUTER**

[www.injuredoverseas.com](http://www.injuredoverseas.com)

You can now hire Barnett & Lerner, P.A. from your computer

Phone: 954.920.7400 US Toll Free: 888.732.7425



## MILITARY

## Guard to pull out of NASCAR, IndyCar

By JENNA FRYER  
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The National Guard said Wednesday it will end its sponsorship of NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. and IndyCar's Graham Rahal, but it is not clear when that goes into effect.

Hendrick Motorsports said in a statement it has a contract through 2015. "We have not been approached by the guard about potential changes and plan to honor our current agreement," the team said.

Bobby Rahal, co-owner of Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, said in a statement he learned of the guard's decision on Wednesday. He called it disappointing news, "given the significant incremental brand exposure we have worked to produce for the Na-

**'Significantly constrained resources and the likelihood of further reductions in the future call for more innovative and cost-effective ways of doing business.'**

**Maj. Gen. Judd H. Lyons**  
acting director of the Army National Guard

tional Guard in our first season together, including various off-track marketing and advertising programs focused on supporting the mission set forth."

The guard said in a statement posted on its web site it spent \$32 million on its NASCAR sponsorship and \$12 million on its IndyCar sponsorship this year, and noted that "sports sponsorships have played an

important role in helping the guard build strong brand awareness."

"Significantly constrained resources and the likelihood of further reductions in the future call for more innovative and cost-effective ways of doing business," Maj. Gen. Judd H. Lyons, acting director of the Army National Guard, said in the statement.

Military funding has come under in-

creased scrutiny in Congress as Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., has called the sponsorship "wasting a bunch of money on a very expensive sports sponsorship."

"Since 2012, the Army Guard has reduced sports sponsorships from six — including professional fishing and motorcycle racing — to just the NASCAR and IndyCar sponsorships," the statement said. "In fiscal year 2015, the Army Guard's marketing budget is expected to be about half of what it was just three years ago."

The guard has been with Earnhardt since 2008. NASCAR's most popular driver has won three races this year — including Sunday at Pocono when the guard was on the No. 88 and his uniform as his primary sponsor — and is second in the Sprint Cup standings.

## Did leadership by 'bold goals' spark VA wait-time crisis?

By TOM PHILPOTT

Until he resigned in May, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki led his department of more than 350,000 employees for nearly 10 years by setting "bold goals" that looked impossible to achieve but that he knew, from his Army years, could inspire better performance and, from Congress, bigger budgets.

But did a goal to cut wait times in half for patients seeking care finally put VA administrators under such pressure that many chose to manipulate performance data, compromise their integrity and even put patients at risk?

A VA physician described for me his reaction, and that of colleagues, when he reached them in 2011 that veterans seeking a primary care appointment, or specialty care consults, were to be seen within 14 days rather than 30 days, the goal VA health care had used since 1995.

"That statement that we had to see patients within 14 days was so unbelievably unrealistic that people laughed at it," the doctor recalled.

He spoke frankly on condition that I not reveal his name or where he works.

"When I first started with VA I was told that when they put in a consult to [my specialty] — and it's all computerized so you can see exactly the time it was placed — the goal was to see that patient within 30 days. If we were seeing 80 to 85 percent within 30 days, [bosses] were happy," he said.

"That became very difficult because the volume of patients was just overwhelming. Then, all of a sudden, we heard that 30 days had become 14 days. I wasn't any kind of an official announcement. And I've got to be honest: nobody made a big deal about it. In fact they didn't pay any attention to it at all.

It was just so stupid they might as well have told me I had to see the patient within 14 seconds. It wasn't going to happen."

Not everyone inside VA health care, however, could ignore the new goal as nonsense. Administrators responsible for hitting appointment timeliness marks suddenly had higher hurdles to clear or to scot around.

Who set the new goal and for

what reason?

A senior VA official made available to discuss this said the 14-day goal has been removed from all supervisor performance plans. He also said he didn't know who made the original decision, or if it was individual or a group.

When it was set, he explained, apparently there was concern about ensuring that patients who needed critical care be given "same-day access." So someone suggested that lowering the 30-day goal, he said, would somehow incentivize staff to deliver more same-day care to critical patients.

"I think the mistake we made was to use as an average measure" a 14-day goal set per appointment, as though using it would signal "we had same-day access for people who critically required it," this official said. "I think we just saw 30, we wanted to get closer to same day access, and so they adjusted the performance measure from 30 to 14."

That was as clear as he could explain what occurred. In retrospect, he added, another mistake was "we didn't change the resourcing levels with the [new] resource requirement."

In other words, the 14-day goal was set but not funded. VA health budgets still grew for identified purposes and programs, but no dollars were committed specifically to shortening patient wait times. That would have meant hiring more physicians, nurses and support staff, buying more equipment and setting up more examining rooms and operating rooms.

"That was a mistake," this official conceded. Why no funding?

"At the time, it would have been people thinking that setting bold goals was a good thing for an agency," he said.

That sounded familiar. Bold had characterized Shinseki's leadership style. He was the secretary who promised to end veteran homelessness by 2015. He also promised by that year to end the compensation claims backlog, which he conceded he had aggravated with another bold move. Shinseki added heart disease, Parkinson's and B-cell leukemia to the list of conditions VA would compensate for and treat as service-connected ailments if vet-

## MILITARY UPDATE

eran had stepped foot in Vietnam. Scientists had found an association between these ailments and defoliants like Agent Orange used in the war.

Last summer, while Shinseki was visiting a VA claims processing site in Newark, N.J., I interviewed him about his ambitious goals.

"There's a fine line between being bold and foolish," the retired four-star general and wounded warrior said. "I think for the most part, over all the things I've ever done in life, [I've mostly been] bold and a few times foolish. I think I'm bold here."

He said he didn't regret setting

bold objectives.

"I've been writing plans all my life. I never wrote a tentative plan. That's not what you expect from a guy you want to solve a problem."

Debra A. Draper, director for health care at the Government Accountability Office, said VA officials told GAO that they had lowered the wait time goal to 14 days because performance data by 2011 showed VA was meeting the old goal for more than 95 percent of veterans seeking care.

The trouble with that decision, Draper said, was that VA appointment data had been unreliable for years, as both by GAO and the VA's Inspector General often reported. Yet meeting wait time goals had been an element of VA performance contracts for administrators since at least 2000, she said.

Factors that made the data unreliable included a scheduling policy that was unclear and open

to local interpretation; antiquated scheduling software; inadequate staff training and, effectively, no oversight of data reports.

Was the shift to 14 days a factor in the current scandal?

"You don't know people's motivations," Draper advised. "But, yeah, going from 30 days to 14, for someone who was planning to do something nefarious or manipulative, it's more pressure to do that."

But Draper believes the scandal would have occurred even if VA had left the 30-day goal in place because so many veterans were complaining to Congress and to veteran groups about long waits to access care, she said.

"Whether it's 14 or 30 days, data need to be reliable so they can really measure [and manage] to whatever the benchmark is," Draper said.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 23111, Centerville, VA, 20120, email [mlupdate@aol.com](mailto:mlupdate@aol.com)

## Are you in the picture?



Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.

No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES  
In print • Online at [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad



## NATION



CHARLES DIBARAPPA/AP

President Barack Obama talks with Benin President Boni Yayi before the third session at the U.S. Africa Leaders Summit in Washington on Wednesday.

# Obama wants momentum to follow Africa summit

By JULIE EILPERIN  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama wrapped up a three-day summit with African leaders Wednesday, making a rare foreign policy advance even as his administration continues to face daunting challenges abroad.

The massive gathering of nearly 50 African heads of state and government in Washington allowed top U.S. officials to broker deals between American companies and African dignitaries, as well as press privately for action on security and human rights concerns. At a time when Europe and major economies such as China are expanding their foothold in Africa, the conference gave the United States a chance to reinforce its long-standing connection to the continent.

While the summit yielded a handful of high-profile announcements—including new public and private investments in economic, agricultural and health development totaling \$37 billion—it also featured the kind of behind-the-scenes diplomatic interactions that could produce meaningful benefits later on. Elected U.S.

officials and their African counterparts discussed issues ranging from tensions within the Great Lakes region to the ongoing conflict in South Sudan.

In a press conference Wednesday evening, Obama called the meeting “an extraordinary event” that can be “a forcing mechanism for decisions and action, so we agreed that the U.S.-Africa leaders summit will be a recurring event to hold ourselves accountable for our commitments and to sustain our momentum.”

The leaders agreed Wednesday to create a “new peace-keeping rapid response project” to enhance Africa’s ability to defuse conflicts, the president said, along with a security and governance initiative to professionalize security forces on the continent.

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Edward Royce, R-Calif., cautioned in an interview Wednesday that the real value of the meeting will be best judged a year from now, “when the words on paper and the hours of talking are implemented and acted upon.”

Several conservatives, as well as some African policy experts,

have faulted the president for failing to engage more aggressively with the continent during his first term. Charlotte Florance, a research associate for economic freedom in Africa and the Middle East, wrote in an email that it took Obama “too long to show up to the table. The rest of the world is already working on the main course, while the U.S. is still talking about what it is going to order.”

But the frenetic pace of events in recent days—including bilateral meetings between African leaders and top American officials, and Obama’s attendance at several summit events—made an impression on many of the government and corporate leaders who had journeyed here.

Royce, who met with the presidents of South Africa, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan, said he had “tough meetings” that were “not uplifting” but delved into pressing issues, including how to stabilize parts of the continent and share intelligence and how to combat wildlife trafficking.

“These leaders have their work cut out [for] them,” Royce said.

# Majority find fault with Congress, president in poll

By JENNIFER AGIESTA  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The latest Associated Press-GfK poll finds the nation dissatisfied with what Congress and President Barack Obama have done lately, and few expect much more after the mid-term elections. Here’s a look at five things to know from the poll.

**Disapproval dominates.** Nearly 9 in 10 Americans say they disapprove of how Congress is handling its job, and 6 in 10 disapprove of the president.

More than half of Americans, 54 percent, disapprove of both.

Among this group, 94 percent say the nation is heading in the wrong direction. About 7 in 10 say someone new ought to win in their congressional district and about half say they are completely certain they’ll vote this November. Most, 57 percent, are Republicans or they lean that way, and 51 percent want to see the GOP wind up in control of Congress this fall.

**The “who cares” bloc.** One-third of Americans say they hope the Republicans take control of Congress outright this fall, and the same share want to see Democrats lead Congress. The final third? They say it just doesn’t matter who takes control of Congress.

So who says they don’t care? Among independents, 77 percent say it just doesn’t matter who takes control of Congress this fall. The remainder are split evenly—11 percent favor the Democrats, 11 percent the Republicans.

Overall, those who say it doesn’t matter are younger (63 percent are under age 50) and largely uninterested in the upcoming election (just 28 percent say they have a great deal or quite a bit of interest in following it).

**Someone get Washington a GPS.** All told, only 28 percent of Americans think the nation is heading in the right direction, the lowest level in August of an election year since 2008. It’s about on par with 2006, when Democrats took control of the House amid a backlash to the Iraq War.

Though the economy pushed

the nation’s “right direction” figures to historic lows in fall 2008, that does not seem to be the culprit in the new poll. About a third (35 percent) say the economy is in good shape, about the same as in May, and 58 percent say the economy has stayed about the same in the past month.

The decline in optimism about the country’s path now seems to mirror drops in August 2011 and October 2013, when congressional inaction led to the threat of a government shutdown in 2011 and a partial one in 2013.

**Outlook for November a bit rosy for Republicans.** There are some signs in the new poll that Republicans have gained ground as the height of the campaign approaches. In May, they trailed Democrats a bit on who ought to control Congress, but now the two parties are about even. Partisans are about equally likely to say they’d like to see their own party in charge of Congress after Nov. 4, with about three-quarters of each saying they hope their side winds up in control. That’s a negative shift for Democrats, who are a bit less apt to say they want their own party to win now than they were in May—74 percent in the new poll compared with 80 percent then.

**For Obama, a new normal.** The July poll marks the second in a row in which the president’s favorability rating tilted negative. Overall, 51 percent have an unfavorable impression of the president, compared with 44 percent who have a favorable take. Before his re-election in 2012, Obama’s favorability rating was consistently in majority territory in AP-GfK polling, bottoming out at 53 percent in December 2011.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted July 24-28 using KnowledgePanel, GfK’s probability-based online panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. It involved online interviews with 1,044 adults and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for all respondents. It is larger for subgroups.

Tourists wondered whether their flights and activities would be disrupted and tried to get in some last-minute beach time before the surf’s up, but ugly.

“Everybody says this is the last day of good weather, so we came down to the beach,” said Shonna Snodgrass, a tourist in Waikiki visiting from Stafford, Va.

Iselle is expected to arrive on the Big Island of Oahu Tuesday evening, bringing heavy rains, winds gusting up to 85 mph and flooding in some areas.

From The Associated Press

# Appeals court might not back gay marriage

The Washington Post

CINCINNATI — If the issue of same-sex marriage is on an expressway to the Supreme Court, Wednesday was rush hour in a federal appeals court here.

In an unprecedented and marathon hearing, tag teams of attorneys for four states told an appellate panel why voter-approved prohibitions in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee should be honored.

It became clear after three hours of arguments that the panel

could become the first roadblock for proponents of same-sex marriage who have been on a winning streak knocking down state restrictions following a landmark decision by the Supreme Court in 2013. That 5-to-4 ruling struck down part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act that defined marriage as only between a man and a woman.

But a panel of three randomly chosen judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit left questions about whether it would

follow the lead of two other appeals courts. Those courts said the Supreme Court’s decision meant that states lacked the right to limit marriage to opposite-sex couples and to deny recognition of unions conducted elsewhere.

If there is a split among the circuit courts on whether marriage is a fundamental right or, alternatively, that states are free to restrict it to heterosexual couples, that would almost surely require Supreme Court intervention sooner rather than later.

## NATION

# Computer breach puts data of government employees at risk

By STEPHEN BRAUN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two government agencies Wednesday said they limited operations with a major government contractor that oversees hundreds of thousands of security clearance background checks for civilian and military workers after the contractor reported it had been targeted by a cyberattack.

The contractor, USIS, did not identify the suspected culprit but said in a statement that the cyberattack had "the markings of a state-sponsored attack." An official with the Department of Homeland Security said the intrusion may have compromised some of its employees' information.

USIS, once known as U.S. Investigations Services Inc., has been under criticism in Congress in recent months for its performance in conducting background checks on National Security

Agency leaker Edward Snowden and on Aaron Alexis, a military contractor employee who killed 12 people during shootings at the Navy Yard in September 2013.

Private contractors conduct background checks on more than two-thirds of the 4.9 million government workers with security clearances, and USIS handles nearly half of that number. Many of those investigations are performed under contracts with the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Homeland Security and the Defense Department.

An OPM spokeswoman said the agency was temporarily halting all of USIS's background check fieldwork "out of an abundance of caution." The spokeswoman, Jackie Koszczuk, said the hiatus will allow USIS to take "necessary steps" to protect its systems.

OPM's own computers were reportedly penetrated earlier this

year by Chinese hackers, according to a New York Times account. The agency's databases were breached in March before the threat was detected and blocked, the Times reported in July.

A DHS spokesman said it had issued "stop-work orders halting the provision of additional sensitive information" to USIS until the agency was confident that the firm could protect that material. The spokesman, Peter Boogard, said the FBI had begun an investigation into the matter. Boogard said the agency was separately working to identify the scope of the breaches and where they occurred.

The firm said in a statement on its website that it was working with law enforcement and had retained "an independent forensic investigative law firm to determine the precise nature and extent of any unlawful entry into our network."



AP

An artist from Los Angeles tattoos a person during the Body Art Expo at the Los Angeles county fairgrounds in Pomona, Calif.

## Tattoo inks can cause infections, FDA warns

By MARY CLARE JALONICK  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Thinking about getting inked? Check the bottle first.

The Food and Drug Administration is warning tattoo parlors, their customers and those buying at-home tattoo kits that not all tattoo ink is safe.

Last month, California company White and Blue Lion Inc. recalled inks in in-home tattoo kits after testing confirmed bacterial contamination in unopened bottles.

At least one skin infection has been linked to the company's products, and FDA officials say they are aware of other reports of infections linked to tattoo inks with similar packaging.

Infections from tattooing are nothing new. Hepatitis, staph infections and even the superbug known as MRSA have been tied to tattoos. Dirty needles and unsanitary environments are often to blame.

But people getting tattoos can get infections in the skin even in the cleanest conditions. The ink can carry bacteria that can spread through the bloodstream — a process known as sepsis. Symptoms are fever, shaking chills and sweats, and the risk is particularly high for anyone with pre-existing heart or circulatory conditions. Less severe infections may involve bumps on the skin, discharge, redness, swelling, blisters or excessive pain at the site.

And you may not be out of the woods for a while: The FDA says it has received reports of bad reactions to tattoo inks right after

tattooing as well as years later.

The FDA says it is concerned that consumers and tattoo artists may have some of the contaminated products from the July recall. White and Blue Lion may have just been one distributor.

Some of the recalled bottles have a multicolored Chinese dragon image with black-and-white lettering, while some are missing manufacturer information. In general, the FDA says those looking to get a tattoo should always ensure that the ink has a brand name and a location of the business that manufactured it.

"What the consumer can do is talk to the tattoo artist and see the ink bottles," said Linda Katz, director of the FDA's Office of Cosmetics and Colors.

This isn't the first outbreak linked to tattoo ink. Reports of infections have increased as tattoos have become more popular in the last decade.

Three years ago, 19 people in Rochester, N.Y., ended up with bubbly rashes on their new tattoos, linked to contaminated water that was used to dilute the ink.

Permanent tattoos aren't the only tattoos that carry risk. An FDA alert earlier this year warned that temporary tattoos popular with kids and often found at beaches, boardwalks and other holiday destinations can be dangerous. The main risk is from black henna, an ink that is combined with natural red henna and can include chemicals that can cause dangerous skin reactions.

In that notice to the public, the FDA said regulation differs from state to state and can be lax in some places.

## Man killed in fight over military branches

The Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — A Montana man who is charged in the throat-slashing death of another man told police they were arguing over which branch of the United States military was better, the Army or the Marines, Yellowstone County prosecutors said.

William Earl Cunningham, 63, of Laurel, Mont., an initial appearance on a deliberate homicide in Justice Court. Justice of the Peace David Carter set his bail at \$500,000 during Tuesday's hearing.

Cunningham did not enter a plea in the death of Nathan Horn, 40, of Billings. He will be

assigned a public defender.

Charging documents say Cunningham told police that he and Horn were arguing Saturday night when Horn jumped up and took a swing at him.

Cunningham told the officer he pushed Horn back and said, "Then I cut him ... I did what the Army taught me to do."

When officers arrived, Cunningham was leaning against a car and Horn was lying on the grass next to Cunningham's feet. Horn had a cut on his right cheek and a deep cut on the left side of his neck.

Horn appeared to be gasping for breath as an officer applied pressure to the

neck wound, court records said.

"I cut him. He's dead," Cunningham told police, according to charging documents. "The knife's on the table."

Horn was pronounced dead less than an hour later.

After Cunningham was read his rights, he told officers he and Horn were sitting at the picnic table when they began arguing about whether the Army or Marines was the best branch of the military, court records said.

Laurel Police Sgt. Mark Guy said Monday that the men had argued the night before about the same issue. It wasn't clear if Horn had served in the military.

## Porn permits fall but movies keep on going

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Where have all the adult-movie filmmakers gone?

A quick review of the Internet shows there is no shortage of porn films available for instant download.

But in Los Angeles County, for years the country's porn capital, records reveal only 20 permits to make adult films have been pulled so far this year.

Industry officials say that's the result of an ordi-

nance voters passed more than a year ago requiring that porn actors use condoms.

So where are the films coming from?

Industry officials say many are still being made in L.A. County by filmmakers who have gone underground.

Others have taken their actors to neighboring counties or states.

If the ordinance remains in effect, many say they won't come back.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

STRIPE'S CENTRAL

# Stripes BLOGS

Get your fair share from our award-winning journalists at [Stripes.com/blogs](http://Stripes.com/blogs).

PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG

PACIFIC STORM TRACKER

OMBUDSMAN

# WORLD



EVGENY MALOLETKA/AP

Journalists walk near a crater caused by a shell which damaged a house following fighting between pro-Russia rebels and Ukrainian government forces in Shakhtarsk, Donetsk region, eastern Ukraine, on Thursday.

## NATO issues warning to Russia

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

NATO's secretary general called on Russia on Thursday to "step back from the brink" as concerns mount that Moscow might be preparing to launch an invasion into Ukraine under the guise of a peacekeeping operation.

"Do not use peacekeeping as an excuse for war-making," Anders Fogh Rasmussen said during a news conference streamed live from Kiev, where he met with Ukrainian leaders.

U.S. and other Western officials estimate that Russia has massed some 20,000 troops near the Ukrainian border, across which pro-Russia militants have been engaged in a bloody conflict with Ukrainian government forces.

"Russia's support to the separatists continues," Rasmussen said. "It has intensified in scale and sophistication."

The downing of a Malaysian airliner, killing all 298 people on board, "shows the tragic global consequences of that reckless support," Rasmussen said. "And Russia has massed large forces on the Ukrainian border, to shield the separatists and to use any pretext to intervene even further."

Rasmussen, who was in Kiev to meet with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, said the 28-nation NATO alliance is prepared to deepen its military partnership with Ukraine, a non-NATO member.

In June, NATO defense ministers agreed to establish four special trust funds to pool resources to assist Ukraine in areas such as defense planning, command and control, logistics and retraining

**‘Do not use peacekeeping as an excuse for war-making.’**

Anders Fogh Rasmussen  
NATO secretary general

retired military personnel who could assist in the current crisis.

The NATO chief also said he expects Ukraine to be incorporated into more joint NATO military drills with the goal of bolstering the country's defense capabilities.

"We are ready to intensify this cooperation," Rasmussen said.

Since Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula in March, relations between NATO and Moscow have rapidly deteriorated, bringing to an end military cooperation in counterterrorism, counterpiracy and other areas.

While Western officials have stated there is no military solution to the crisis, the U.S. and its allies in Europe have gradually increased economic sanctions on Russia, which in turn has banned imports of a number of Western food and agricultural products. Moscow has also threatened bans on flights over its airspace.

Rasmussen said he expected severe economic penalties to be imposed on Moscow if Russia launches an invasion of Ukraine.

"I have no doubt it would lead to deeper, more profound, tougher economic sanctions that would really hurt the Russian economy," Rasmussen said.

vandiver.john@stripes.com

## Shelling in rebel-held Ukrainian city kills 4

The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — Sustained shelling in the main rebel stronghold in eastern Ukraine struck residential buildings and a hospital, killing at least four people and wounding 10 others, officials said, as government forces pressed forward in their campaign to rout the separatists.

Mortar fire struck the Vishnevsky Hospital in Donetsk on Thursday morning, killing one and wounding five others, Donetsk city council spokesman Maxim Rovensky said.

"There was a sudden explosion," witness Dr. Anna Kravtsova said. "A mortar round flew through the window."

The shelling, which destroyed an array of equipment in the dentistry unit, also hit three nearby apartment buildings.

It followed a night of shelling in another neighborhood as fighting between government and pro-Russia separatists is inching closer to the city center. The mayor's office said in a statement posted on its website that three people had been killed, five wounded and several residential buildings destroyed during those attacks.

Clashes erupted in central Kiev, the capital of Ukraine,

as city authorities sought to clear away the remnants of a tent colony erected by demonstrators involved in the street uprising against pro-Russia President Viktor Yanukovich. At the time, protesters were angry about endemic corruption and wanted closer ties with the European Union.

In scenes reminiscent of that revolt, which climaxed with Yanukovich's ouster in February, demonstrators set alight tires in their face-off against a volunteer battalion oversteering the clean-up operation.

In eastern Ukraine, government troops have made tentative progress in their strategy to retake Donetsk and other towns and cities. Armed forces have refrained from pitched urban battles, and instead favored pushing back their opponents with artillery fire. It has led to a growing number of civilians casualties.

Vishnevsky Hospital, one of the city's larger medical treatment facilities, is less than 3 miles from the main square. It has been used to provide treatment to civilian victims of the ongoing conflict.

"The hospital became a nightmare. This is absurd," said patient Dmitry Kozhur, 37. "We came here to keep living, but now we are risking death."

## Israel and Hamas dig in as Gaza talks go on

By TIA GOLDENBERG  
AND IBRAHIM BARZAK  
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — An Israeli Cabinet minister warned Thursday that Israel will respond if Hamas resumes fire after a temporary truce expires in the Gaza Strip.

The statement, along with Hamas' earlier threats, signals that both sides are digging in their positions — presumably to secure best terms for a deal — as negotiations continue in Cairo on a lasting truce and reconstruction for the war-battered coastal territory.

The two sides remain far apart and far from anything resembling an agreement. Israel wants the Islamic militant group, which runs the Gaza Strip, to disarm, or at least ensure it cannot re-arm, before considering Hamas' demand to lift a crippling blockade

**‘We are preparing for any situation, and if they resume fire, the military will resume operations.’**

Gilad Erdan

Israeli Cabinet minister

that was imposed by Israel in 2007 and later enforced by Egypt as well. The temporary 72-hour truce, agreed to by both sides, went into effect Tuesday morning, which helped launch

the talks in Cairo. Israel and Hamas are under heavy international pressure to extend the cease-fire to allow more time for negotiations.

"We are preparing for any situation and if they resume fire, the military will resume operations," Israeli Cabinet minister Gilad Erdan told Israel Radio.

He said that, in principle, Israel does not oppose Gaza's "economic rehabilitation," but said the strip's demilitarization was a key priority for Israel.

Hamas leader Moussa Abu Marzouk said Wednesday evening that so far, there has been no deal on extending the truce. Izzat al-Rishq, a senior Hamas member, told the Palestinian news agency that Hamas would condition any extension to the cease-fire on progress in the talks.

Highlighting the wide gap between the sides, a Palestinian official briefed on the talks in Cairo said he did not expect Israel's demand for disarming Hamas to be accepted.

"Nobody accepts demilitarization of the weapons in Gaza while the Israeli occupation is continuing and the siege on Gaza is continuing and the crimes against our people are continuing," said Wael Abu Yousef, stressing that he was expressing his personal view.



## WORLD

# US considers airdrops for Iraqi refugees

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon may conduct a humanitarian relief operation in Iraq to aid members of a religious minority who are stranded on a mountain and trapped by Islamic militants, according to officials.

The Pentagon is already assisting Iraqi relief efforts, and is prepared to become directly involved.

"We have been working urgently and directly with officials in Baghdad and Irbil to coordinate Iraqi airdrops to people in need," a defense official said in a statement to Stars and Stripes on condition of anonymity. "The government of Iraq has initiated air drops in the region and we are in constant communication with them on how we can help coordinate additional relief, enhance their efforts, and provide direct assistance wherever possible."

The New York Times reported earlier Thursday that President Obama has been weighing a series of options ranging from dropping humanitarian supplies on Mount Sinjar to airstrikes on Islamic State fighters at the base of the mountain, a senior administration official said.

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest was noncommittal during a press conference Thursday.

"I'm not in a position to rule things on the table or off the table," he told reporters. "The humanitarian situation is deeply disturbing there. And it's one that we are following closely."

Earnest did stress that no U.S. ground troops would be involved in any military operation in Iraq.

The administration had been delaying taking any military action against ISIS until there is a new Iraqi government, both White House and Pentagon officials have said privately that the United States would not intervene militarily until Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki stepped down.

But administration officials acknowledged that the crisis on Mount Sinjar may be forcing their hand, the Times reported.

"There could be a humanitarian catastrophe there," a second administration official told the Times, adding that a decision from Obama was expected "imminently — this could be a fast-moving train."

For nearly two months, Kurdish forces had managed to protect the area from the



via AP video

Iraqi people from the Yazidi community arrive in Irbil in northern Iraq on Sunday after Islamic militants attacked the towns of Sinjar and Zummar.

Sunni extremists, who have rampaged through much of northern Iraq, slaughtering opponents, destroying ancient shrines and demanding that people of other religions convert or die. But last weekend, the famously tough Kurdish fighters suffered their first setbacks in the Sinjar region, prompting hundreds of thousands of civilians to flee.

An estimated 10,000 to 40,000 of them sought refuge on the craggy peaks of Mount Sinjar — largely members of the minority Yazidi sect. They fear death if they descend into areas controlled by the extremist rebels, who consider them apostates. Kurdish forces so far have failed to break through the militants' lines to reach them, despite launching a counteroffensive early this week.

The Iraqi government conducted two airdrops of aid to the desperate refugees on Wednesday, but humanitarian workers said they did not come close to meeting the growing need. Some of the water bottles in the aid bundles cracked open. "Is help coming?" one of those trapped on the mountain, Shihab Balki, 23, asked when contacted by cellphone — one of the few belonging to the refugees that still had battery life. He said that at least 17 children have died on the mountain because of the inhospitable conditions.

"I'm standing here next to an old lady and a child lying on the ground, they are not dead, but we fear they are dying," Balki said.

UNICEF says it has confirmed that children have perished on Mount Sinjar but does not have verified up-to-date figures.

Balki said last Wednesday that he had managed to secure about four gallons of water for his family of seven from one of the day's airdrops — not nearly enough in the hot Iraqi summer.

Many of the bottles dropped in a wooden crate had cracked, their precious contents spilling onto the rocks, he said. Earlier airdrops included food and milk, but the cartons of milk also smashed on the mountainside, he said.

Haji Ghandour, a Yazidi parliamentarian in Baghdad, said the shortage of aid was acute.

"There are some airdrops, but they aren't even covering half the need," he said. "Most of these supplies fall near to [Islamic State fighters], others break and are ruined. The operation is not accurate."

The United Nations says the Iraqi government has yet to take up an offer of technical assistance for airdrops, which are being coordinated with local authorities in the semiautonomous Kurdish region.

Meanwhile, tens of thousands of newly

## Militants seize largest dam

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Sunni militants from the Islamic State group on Thursday seized Iraq's largest dam, placing them in control of enormous power and water resources and access to the river that runs through the heart of Baghdad.

After a week of attempts, the radical Islamist gunmen successfully stormed the Mosul Dam and forced Kurdish forces to withdraw from the area, residents living near the dam told The Associated Press. They spoke anonymously for safety concerns.

The Islamic State group posted a statement online Thursday confirming that they had taken control of the dam and vowed to continue "the march in all directions," adding that it will not "give up the great Caliphate project."

The group added that it has seized a total of 17 cities, towns and targets — including the dam — during the past five days. The statement could not be verified but it was posted on a site frequently used by the group.

Halgurd Hekmat, a spokesman for the Peshmerga, told The Associated Press that clashes around the dam are ongoing and he does not know who is in control at this point in time.

displaced people have flooded into the Kurdish region, which Bakir said lacks the finances to assist them.

The region, which is home to just over 5 million residents, is now hosting an additional 1.5 million people — refugees from the Syrian war and internally displaced Iraqis, he said.

Kurdish officials had warned for weeks that they were unable to maintain the fight along the semiautonomous region's 650-mile-long front with the militants, unless the Kurds got outside support.

The Washington Post contributed to this report.

# Liberia, Sierra Leone race to enforce Ebola quarantine

By JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLEH

The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Soldiers clamped down on people trying to travel to Liberia's capital Thursday from rural areas hard-hit by the Ebola virus hours after the president declared a national state of emergency.

Reports have emerged of families hiding sick relatives at home and of abandoned bodies being left in the streets.

Similar efforts were underway in eastern areas of neighboring Sierra Leone after officials there launched "Operation Octopus" to try and keep those sick with Ebola in isolation. While the outbreak has now reached four countries, Liberia and Sierra Leone account for more than 60 percent of the deaths, according to the World Health Organization.

tion. The outbreak that emerged in March has claimed at least 932 lives.

In announcing the 90-day state of emergency, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf said the worst recorded Ebola outbreak in history requires "extraordinary measures for the very survival of our state and for the protection of the lives of our people."

"Ignorance, poverty, as well as entrenched religious and cultural practices continue to exacerbate the spread of the disease especially in the counties," Sirleaf said late Wednesday.

She warned that some civil liberties could be suspended as needed, and by Thursday soldiers already were restricting movements on the roads to the capital, Monrovia, witnesses said. Some soldiers were deployed to the

crossroads town of Klay about 25 miles west of Monrovia in an effort to stop people from three Ebola-infected counties from coming closer to the capital.

Yet even as authorities tried to keep more people from reaching Monrovia, the capital already has been hard hit by the virus.

National Health Workers Association president Joseph Tamba said the state of emergency is necessary. But he says people should have been given advance notice to buy food ahead of the movement restrictions.

Previous outbreaks of the Ebola virus were limited to parts of Congo and Uganda, far from the capital cities in those countries.

The World Health Organization is holding talks this week on whether to declare an international health emergency.



MICHAEL DUFFY/AP

A woman washes her hands before she is allowed to enter a building Wednesday as part of an Ebola prevention campaign in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

## WORLD

THE STRANGE,  
SECTARIAN WORLD OFBAGHDAD'S  
TATTOO PARLORSBY ABIGAIL  
HAUSLOHNER*The Washington Post*

**BAGHDAD** — To get to Dante's lair, you have to walk down an alley, up the stairs and along a corridor of a dilapidated shopping center in Baghdad's central Karrada district.

Inside a dimly lit room there on a recent, sweltering night, I found a group of tough-looking young men and teenagers gathered around a comrade who was struggling to remain stoic despite the pain.

Dante, 24, our protagonist, was hard at work, drilling a tattoo of the Shiite saint Ali into the young man's arm.

Photographer Max Becherer and I had come to meet Dante — with the help of our young driver, Osama — to see a different side of Iraq than its grinding political violence.

Of course, almost no place in Iraq is immune from the horrendous suffering that has plagued the nation for decades — first under the brutal rule of Saddam Hussein, then with the violence that exploded after the U.S. invasion in 2003.

But Dante's shadowy tattoo parlor contained an unusual mix of men and teens, Sunnis and Shiites, militants and civilians, who were brought together by their unusual hobbies: grunge, rap music and ink — lots of it.

Mohamed al-Najab — Dante's real name — opened his first Baghdad tattoo parlor in 2008.

For two years, Dante had worked as a translator for U.S. troops based at Baghdad airport. They nicknamed him Dante, for the main character in a dark animated film, "Dante's Inferno." And the name stuck.

An American soldier who had a tattoo parlor in Los Angeles taught Dante the craft of inking figures on people's bodies. Before that, he was just a kid who liked to draw.

Dante said he left the military job after a firefight that left his back and arm riddled with bullet wounds.

Dante's space plunges into total darkness when the power cuts out every 30 minutes. It was crowded with young people whose

tattoos reflected a mix of Western pop cliché and the religious and political symbols of Iraq.

Barek Basil, 21, an Iraqi Kurd, had devoted a full arm to his passion for music: tattoos of a microphone, a skull wearing headphones, musical notes and a guitar.

Beside him, another man had a tattoo of a Shiite saint, Hussein, who was killed in the 7th century by a rival Muslim army, in a battle that became a defining moment for the Sunni-Shiite divide. The words "Revenge for Hussein" arched above the picture on his shoulder.

Then there was Omar, Basil's 18-year-old friend, who had his explicitly Sunni name tattooed across his knuckles and on his upper arm.

Omar was an adolescent during the years that death squads executed civilians simply for having names like Omar or keeping pic-



**Muhammad al-Najab, a tattoo artist known as Dante, applies a tattoo on the finger of Mustafa al-Jobory in his Baghdad tattoo shop.**

tures of Shiite saints on their cellphones.

In the shadowy gloom of the shop, the symbols of Iraq's sectarian divide were out in the open for all to see.

And yet, in a country where religious affiliation was linked to so many deaths, they kept their political views — or animosities — quiet that night.

The scene underscored a fact that Iraqis feel the foreign press often misses: that Iraq is still a religiously and ethnically diverse country, full of mixed families and neighborhoods. Despite years of conflict, plenty of Iraqis still feel united by family, nationhood or simply a shared interest such as tattoos.

**Barek Basil, 21, reveals a tattoo on his calf. Basil, a rapper and Iraqi Kurd, has devoted his arm to music-inspired tattoos.**

PHOTOS BY MAX BECHERER  
*The Washington Post*



## NATION



# One rainy wish

By DIANA MARCUM  
Los Angeles Times

**TERRA BELLA, Calif.** — At first they called Fred Lujan a gentleman farmer.

The retired barber washed his tractor every night and parked it in the garage, a source of gentle amusement to the veteran growers around him. He called his pistachio trees his babies, his girls, and gave them names.

"Come on, Suzanne," he'd say to his wife in the evenings. "Let's have a glass of wine and sit outside and watch our girls grow."

Back when he was still learning to take corners while tilling, he sliced one of the saplings. The other farmers told him to pull it out, the tree wouldn't make it. But he wrapped the trunk in mud and water and tape the way his grandfather, born on an Indian reservation, had taught him.

He named the tree Survivor.  
Eight years later, Survivor and the other trees were ready to give their first mature crop. In February, the 10-acre orchard was sprouting spring leaves.

Then a man from the irrigation district came and sealed off Lujan's water meter. A green tag read "No Irrigation Water Is Available This Year." There was a \$10,000 fine for breaking the seal.

For the first time in the more than half a century that the federal government had been diverting Sierra Nevada water to farmers, there would be no deliveries to most Central Valley irrigation districts. In the third year of drought, there wasn't enough water to go around.

It was a blow to the entire region, but a possible death knell to Terra Bella, whose pistachio and citrus groves are watered only by rain and the government's canals.

## California drought imperils a dream

"How am I supposed to just sit here and watch everything turn brown and die?" asked Lujan, 68.

The Lujans put a bucket in the shower to catch the water while it warmed up and used that to water the three fruit trees — peach, nectarine and plum — at the side of the house. They bought bottled water to drink and used tap water to keep their small garden alive.

Two weeks after irrigation water was cut, domestic water was rationed. Most of the 6,000 people who live in Terra Bella and whose children attend school here are immigrant farmworkers. They would have drinking water — about half the amount they usually got — but little work.

"There's so many worse off than us," Suzanne said. "But we tried so hard to do everything right, to plan ahead."

They had saved for retirement. But as they watched Fred's mother grow older and face ill health, they decided their nest egg wouldn't be enough. They downsized to the small house in Terra Bella and invested in pistachios. Lujan had several cancer operations, and this year he had heart surgery. Their retirement savings dwindled, but the orchard was their safety net.

Survivor died in June.  
Not having water during the first heat spell was

too much stress for the injured tree. Lujan took it hard. It seemed like a harbinger.

He planned to look for a job the next week, beginning on Tuesday — barbershops are closed on Mondays.

"You can never quit," he said. "I'll beg, borrow or steal to keep my trees alive."

Driving to town, he noticed Setton Farms, which had a pistachio-processing plant in Terra Bella, had planted new trees — about all the way to Bakersfield, it seemed to Lujan.

Back when Lujan still had his barber shop, one of his clients was a lifelong farmer, Mike Smith. He had always liked Smith because he had a big laugh and a hard handshake.

Three years ago, Smith started a job as liaison between growers and Setton Farms. Lujan decided to talk to him.

"He's an up-and-up guy. I figured if he can help, he will, and if not, he'll tell me."

Smith delivered Lujan's plea, and Setton Farms agreed to advance the Lujans 10 acre-feet of the emergency water the company had bought, and let them pay for it after harvest.

"I was ecstatic to be able to help Fred. He's real. Just a very genuine person, and you may have noticed he's never met a stranger," Smith said. "But in my heart of hearts, I know this is only a Band-Aid. What happens next year? What if it doesn't rain? The small guys can't hang on."

Back at the Lujans', Fred was happy again. He was back in the orchard, shooting at Evan the dog to stop being naughty and chasing the school bus.

"Mikey, my oldest grandson, just came back from Afghanistan. My trees, my babies, are alive," he said. "Now, I'm just waiting for it to rain."

He was sure it would.

**Fred Lujan, 68, dreamed of retirement as a gentleman farmer in Terra Bella, Calif. But drought conditions have robbed his crops of water, leaving his future in doubt.** Michael Robinson Chavez, Los Angeles Times/MCT



# NATION

## ALL ABOARD CALIFORNIA'S ZOMBIE TRAIN: UNDEAD AHEAD

By ANGELA HILL  
The Oakland Tribune

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Initial symptoms of the zombie infestation were subtle, barely evident as we boarded our dangerously exposed, open-air coach with roughly 50 other normal, uncontaminated humans, their heads surely screwed on straight. Big, juicy, brain-filled heads.

In hindsight, the fact that this conveyance was dubbed the "Zombie Train" — operated by the folks who run the Sacramento River Train and a Wild West shootout ride along the same route — should have been a dead giveaway. Yet on this bright, sunny, 97-degree Sacramento Sunday, the only reanimated corpse in sight was a small, seemingly gentle, decaying soul named Bud, secured to a white-coated research scientist via sturdy chain-link leash.

Aww, who's the cutest widdle zombie in the post-apocalyptic world? That's right, you are! Yes, you are!

We checked in at an obscure boarding site next to a water-treatment plant — I in my befitting "Plants Vs. Zombies" T-shirt and my spouse sporting an equally apt "I don't play well with others" tee. Our onboard host, the hardscrabble Sarge (actually Tom Presler, of Lodi, Calif.), inspired confidence with his camo ensemble and mirrored aviators, frequently shouting, "Look alive, people!" which was, of course, our collective aim.

The train lurched forward on the two-hour ride, passing innocuous fields of vegetation and fruit trees, as the Talking Heads' "Road to Nowhere" played over the intercom. Then the

music was abruptly interrupted by crackling static and an emergency broadcast — something about an outbreak "that affects the brain and regenerates dead tissue," and a caveat to "try to remain calm."

Soon, we spotted a handful of already-dead heads rising from graves along the railroad bed. Others stumbled from neighboring barns at the sluggish speed of fright, chewing on scenery and nibbling sweet, sweet human flesh. Fortunately, we passengers were given license to kill, armed with hefty laser-tag guns that resembled grenade launchers, but which merely exuded a beam of light and a hollow, fake-gunshot sound of "pow, puh-pow-pow" — not unlike the rifles at the shooting gallery in Disney's Frontierland.

The train whistle blared, and everyone blasted away. Some — like the young woman poised at the window across from us — fired willy-nilly at anything in passing backyards. Pow.

"You just shot a goat," my spouse pointed out to her.

"It might have been a zombie goat," she said defensively with another "pow," shooting herself in the foot. "I'm not very good with guns."

Yes, for all this drool and drama, it was just for good, fake-blooded fun. No zombies were injured, and no actual human brains were sucked. And while one might have thought the zombie craze would have run — or perhaps shuffled — its course by now, it's clear the doggone undead just won't die.

In fact, they seem to be more virulent than ever, from TV shows and video games to Zombie Run marathons.

And now this. The Zombie Train kicked off last Halloween season with quick sellouts on each ride, despite mixed reviews from some who lusted for more zombie targets. This year,

**Even zombies need to take a break as Matt Givens eats a hand sandwich in between performances.**



**Above: Ben Daniels, 16, and his father Sterling Daniels take aim at zombies during the Zombie Train ride in Sacramento, Calif.**

**Right: Zombie actress Crystal Provencio feasts on a human.**

PHOTOS BY JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO, Bay Area News Group/MCT



ror movies," Elizabeth said.

Bernie and June Fineman, of East Liverpool, Ohio, brought some of their grandkids who live in Orinda, Calif. "Every grandchild should learn to shoot zombies before the age of 12," Bernie said, setting a good example by eagerly picking off a few zombies lurking under a freeway overpass.

Suddenly, cute widdle zombie Bud broke loose from his keeper, not looking so cute and widdle anymore, drooling blood and engaging in fisticuffs with the Sarge. Our hard-bitten host took a solid bite in the arm. My husband reflexively fired a proactive laser shot, but it had no effect, and the inevitable ensued, which I'll leave to your imagination.

Let's just say, once bitten, twice as hungry for brains. Try to remain calm.

the attraction runs most weekends through summer and into October.

"We've been doing a Wild West shoot-em-up for a long time, so we thought it would be fun for passengers to interact and shoot back at the bad guys. And who's badder than zombies?" asked a grusomely gleeful Chris Hart, president of the rail group that also operates the Mendocino Railway, Sierra Railroad Dinner Train and the Skunk Train.

So they contracted with actors from the Sacramento branch of the international Zombie Club (who knew?), who ravenously helped develop brain-thirsty characters and a variety of plots.

Our afternoon ride drew everyone from kids to grandparents, locals and travelers. Elizabeth and Lorenzo Arreola, of San Jose, a couple in their mid-20s, chose zombie slaughter as a delightful way to celebrate their sixth wedding anniversary. "We love hor-



**Stay connected to  
your military community,  
no matter how far you are from home.**

**News, information and more — 24/7**

**stripes.com STARS AND STRIPES**

# HOMEWARD BOUND

*your heart is home...*



**HONOR YOUR  
FAVORITE HERO WITH  
A CHANCE TO WIN!**

**\$25,000**

**Visit [militaryhero.com](http://militaryhero.com) for details.**



Visit [militaryhero.com](http://militaryhero.com) between August 4 and September 5, and vote for your favorite hero at [www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX](http://www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX).

Dickies American Hero of the Year receives \$25,000.

Plus the 4 finalists receive \$1,000 each.



FAITH

# 'Other' faiths left out in the cold

Poll: Which is your favorite religious group?  
Most Americans answer: My own.

By MICHELLE BOORSTEIN  
The Washington Post

**A**re you sitting down? New research shows that when people are asked to rate their own faith group compared with others, they rate it more positively.

A survey by the Pew Research Center asked respondents to identify their feelings about various faith groups on a "cool" to "hot," 1 to 100 feelings thermometer. A 50 was described as neutral, not having "particularly" positive or negative feelings.

Every group, from atheists to Catholics and black Protestants to white evangelicals, felt most warmly about people like them.

For example, Catholics get an 80 thermometer reading from other Catholics, compared with a 58 among non-Catholics, and evangelicals get a 79 from people who call themselves born-again or evangelical, compared with a 52 from nonevangelicals.

Rating one another sounds like a harsh high school popularity game, but the survey does show the clear correlation between knowing someone of another faith and feeling more positively about them. For example, Jews get a 69 reading from people who know Jews, compared with a 55 from people who say they don't know any one Jewish. Atheists receive a neutral score of 50 among people who know an atheist, compared with a cold 29 by people who say they don't know any atheists. People who know a Muslim give a neutral number (49) compared with a cooler one (35) from people who know none.

Scott Thumma, a sociology professor at the nondenominational Hartford Seminary, said such research is important to track social change. Hartford, which focuses on interfaith education, has run a research project called Faith Communities Today, which in 2000 found that only 7 percent of U.S. congregations reported worshipping with congregations from another faith. By 2010, that percentage had doubled. The percentage of congregations doing interfaith community service jumped from 8 percent to 20 percent in that period.

"There's great value in asking because you know if there is tension, or conversation in the nation, then obviously cultural change is happen-

ing," Thumma said. "Even if it still shows the nation has a long way to go."

Thumma said deeper research shows that Americans speak and think differently about other faith groups when asked in the abstract than they do when they are asked about specific interactions with people they know.

The Pew survey shows that many factors are associated with varying views about faith groups, including someone's age, level of education and political affiliation.

Older Americans give higher ratings than younger Americans to Christians and Jews, while younger Americans give higher ratings than older ones to other non-Christian groups. For example, the rating given evangelicals climbs from 58 to 67 percent between Americans 18 to 29 compared with those older than 65. A similar pattern is there with Jews and Catholics. Younger people give Buddhists a 58, but the number drops to 47 by the oldest group.

Pew researchers said the differences could have to do with the disparity in stated religious affiliation between the young and old: 85 percent of people 65 and older describe themselves as Christian, compared with 59 percent of younger Americans.

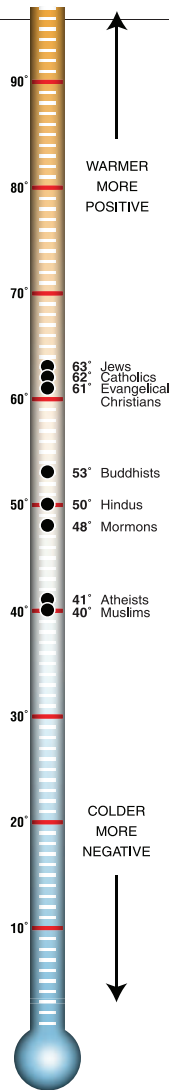
Party affiliation is also connected with feelings on faith groups. Republicans give the highest positive feelings toward evangelicals (a 71 reading), although the data show that is affected by the large percentage of evangelical Republicans. Among nonevangelical Republicans, the figure drops to 62 percent. Democrats give the highest readings to Jews (average rating of 62), Catholics (61) and Buddhists (57).

Greg Smith, of Pew, said the organization has done multiple polls trying to get at the intersection between feelings about religion and about other things, such as how much people perceive themselves as having theological beliefs in common with others and people's ideas on religion and violence.

"In a society like the United States, where religion is such an important part of life, of how people view the world, how people approach politics — it's one of the things that drives some of the very serious cultural disagreements we see in American society," Smith said. "It's important to know how religious groups see one another, relate to one another."

**'Religion is ... one of the things that drives some of the very serious cultural disagreements we see in American society. It's important to know how religious groups see one another, relate to one another.'**

Greg Smith  
Pew Research Center



**Respondents in a Pew Research Center Poll:**

"We'd like to get your feelings toward a number of groups on a 'feeling thermometer.' A rating of 0 degrees means you feel as cold and negative as possible. A rating of 100 means you feel as warm and positive as possible. You would rate the group at 50 degrees if you don't feel particularly positive or negative toward a group.

Results above show total mean ratings of each religious group.



## NATION

# App uses facial recognition to find lost dogs

By SUE MANNING  
The Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES** — Any worried pet owner who has spent days hanging posters, making phone calls and knocking on neighbors' doors hopes there's a more scientific way to find a lost dog.

That became a reality when facial recognition technology successfully reunited a pet at San Diego County Animal Services with its owners. Joanne Cox's family in San Diego turned to FindingRover.com, a website and app that uses technology built by university researchers, to reconnect with their dog Roxy, a Shiba Inu.

The website keeps a database of photos from the three county shelters and tries to match eight distinctive facial markers on dogs with images uploaded by users searching for lost pets. Eyes and noses are important areas that differentiate pooches, including eye size and their position near the snout.

FindingRover.com founder John Polimeno wants to expand the photo database to improve the odds of more happy endings, with shelters elsewhere set to sign on. He's also showing it to rescues, veterinarians and

**While people's faces are relatively uniform, with eyes, noses and mouths in the same general location, dogs' eyes and snouts are in different places.**

dog groups and is visiting other countries.

The website is unique in using facial recognition but stands among many online tools people increasingly used to find lost pets. There are alarm systems, social media alerts and apps that post rewards or call people in neighborhoods.

Plus, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the largest and oldest humane society in the U.S., has its own mobile app for recovering missing pets. It offers tips on the best ways to search and allows users to create a digital flyer to share on social media.

"Through research, the ASPCA has found that the best method for pet owners to find their lost pet is to get out the door, search their neighborhood, post flyers, check their local shelters and make sure that their pets have ID tags with updated information," said Dr.

Emily Weiss, vice president of ASPCA shelter research and development.

Facial recognition worked for the Cox family after Roxy bolted during a thunderstorm in late July. Five days after the dog disappeared, the family's 10-year-old daughter created a free Finding Rover account and the technology matched her uploaded photo to one taken at the shelter.

"Within four hours of her arrival to the shelter, we were there to pick her up," Joanna Cox said in an email.

Every dog entering San Diego County's three shelters is added to the photo database. Daniel deSouza, the system's deputy director, says the program can work two ways:

■ Someone finds a dog, takes its picture and sends it to the database, where a match generates a notice to the owner. The owner then can call the good Samaritan and arrange a pickup.

■ Dogs coming in to the shelters have their photos run against the database. If there's a match, the owner gets a call.

The technology powering Finding Rover was built by Steven Callahan and John Schreiner of the University of Utah's software development center.

They found the eight markers on dogs are far fewer than the 128 points on the human facial recognition program.

"People are sort of uniform, the shape of their faces, skin tones, all their eyes, noses and mouths are in the same general location," Callahan said. But dogs' eyes and snouts are in different places.

It's difficult to measure accuracy, Callahan said, but if there are 100 dogs in a database, a top-three match would be hit 98 percent of the time.



## Gay bar discriminates against man in drag

**DENVER** — A popular Denver gay bar discriminated against a man when a bouncer denied him entry last year because he was dressed in drag, Colorado regulators said in a decision that could become more common as anti-discrimination laws increasingly include gender identity.

The civil rights division of the state's Department of Regulatory Agencies last month ordered the Denver Wrangler to resolve the dispute with Vito Marzano, 27, a gay man who was wearing a dress, makeup and a wig when he went to the bar on Aug. 31, 2013.

A bouncer said he turned Marzano away because his appearance didn't match his driver's license, and he was following a policy designed to thwart underage drinkers from entering the club.

But regulators determined the bar illegally discriminates against effeminate men because its dress code bars high heels, wigs, "appearance-altering makeup" and strong perfume.

"In other words, a female with a masculine gender presentation would be permitted to enter, whereas, a male presenting as a female would be denied entry," the determination stated.



Marzano

Affordable home loans through a veteran-owned and operated company that partners with veteran nonprofits and carefully selected lenders to offer the best possible rates.



STARS AND STRIPES.

**VA Loan Center**

**Get Real Time Pricing on VA Loans**

visit [stripes.com/valoans](http://stripes.com/valoans) today!

Powered by  **VA Loan Captain**

## FACES



# Spin off

## Jack Antonoff takes a break from fun., keeps making music

BY MESFIN FEKADU  
The Associated Press

**J**ack Antonoff is spinning off from his chart-topping band fun., but he's recruited some big-time backup for his solo side project: Yoko Ono and Lena Dunham.

The 30-year-old guitarist has taken a break from the Grammy Award-winning pop-rock trio for his project Bleachers, releasing the album "Strange Desire" last month.

Ono makes an appearance on the record, and his "Girls"-starring girlfriend directed the music video for lead single "I Wanna Get Better," currently No. 1 on Billboard's alternative songs chart.

Antonoff says despite their help, songwriting felt lonely since he was apart from the band mates he's worked with for six years.

"When you start writing songs on your own, there's no Bible, there's no one around you, so you're just writing and you're left with, like, the dead space in your head to know if it's a good song or an interesting concept," said Antonoff, who co-wrote fun.'s hits and has also written with Taylor Swift and Sara Bareilles. "And so it's almost the exact opposite of working in fun... And that's why it's interesting to me."

He wrote and recorded the music while on a plane, in the car or in bed—with some elements of the album stretching back several years—all while fun. was topping the charts, selling millions of singles and touring the world.

**For the Bleachers project, you are singing. Will we hear you sing on future fun. records?**

I don't know. I don't know if I want to. The exciting thing about Bleachers and fun. are they're different, and they're aesthetically different in many ways. But it's also like my role is very different, and that's cool.

**Why call it Bleachers and not your name?**

I never wanted to name the project my name because it felt too reactionary or too like, "This is my solo album" when it's not "this is my solo album." It's a whole different body of work.

**How did the members of fun. respond when you told them you were releasing this album?**

I've been touring for over 12 years and so have the other guys in fun. And we got together both, you know, being our own entities and our own bands. So we came together as like this delusional supergroup of sorts. So there was a never a moment of like, 'Hey guys, like, I'm going to make my own record.'

**What was it like working with Lena on your music video?**

She's a great director. I didn't have to worry about it because I knew she would handle it, whereas sometimes with other videos you're scared, like, 'Is this going to be right?' ... I, just for once in my life, got to do nothing.

**What was it like working with Yoko Ono?**

She's... uninhibited and free with her ideas. ... She went in and started screaming and grunting and making album noises and started talking crazy (expletive) and beautiful (expletive) and singing. I basically took this 20-minute file of her doing all this stuff, got in bed and started cutting it all up.

**Jack Antonoff, guitarist for fun., takes up singing on his own project, called Bleachers.**

STEVE C. MITCHELL, INVISION/AP

## Top nominee Beyonce to perform at MTV VMAs

The Associated Press

Beyonce is set to have a "Flawless" night at the MTV Video Music Awards.

The singer will perform at the Aug. 24 show at The Forum in Inglewood, Calif. She leads in nominations with eight, including video of the year for "Drunk in Love."

The 32-year-old will also receive the Video Vanguard Award, a lifetime achievement honor also bestowed to Michael Jackson, Madonna and Britney Spears.

Beyonce caused a stir last weekend when she released a Nicki Minaj-assisted remix to her song "Flawless," where the singer raps and references the leaked el-

evator video of her sister Solange attacking Jay Z.

Other performers at the VMAs include Ariana Grande, Maroon 5, Usher and 5 Seconds of Summer.

### Pandora cuts first-ever direct deal with artists

Internet radio leader Pandora has come to its first-ever direct licensing deal with artists, a wide-ranging agreement with independent label group Merlin that both said would mean higher payments to artists and more play for them on Pandora stations.

That means Merlin-represented artists such as Arcade Fire, Bad Religion and Lenny Kravitz could

get more rotations as their representatives will be able to lobby Pandora to place their songs earlier in playlists where they fit.

Artists will also get access to Pandora data for the first time, enabling them to make informed decisions including what songs artists might release next. They will also have tools to directly communicate with fans on Pandora.

For Pandora Media Inc., the move helps improve relations with artists, who have complained that royalties on digital streaming services are too low.

### Other news

■ **George Clooney** and his fiancée have posted a legal notice

declaring their intention to marry in Italy. Clooney and Beirut-born London lawyer Amal Almuttann announced their engagement in April, though the pair have not yet announced a date for their nuptials.

■ A warrant has been issued for rapper Wiz Khalifa's arrest after he skipped a court date on a marijuana possession charge in west Texas. Online court records show the 26-year-old performer, whose real name is Cameron Thomaz, failed to appear for a scheduled Wednesday arraignment in an El Paso County misdemeanor court. So County Court-at-Law Judge Ricardo Herrera issued a bench warrant for Khalifa's arrest.



AP

**Beyonce will get the MTV Video Vanguard Award, a lifetime achievement honor, at the MTV VMAs on Aug. 24.**

■ Singer Gary LeVox has lost his voice, forcing Rascal Flatts to cancel three shows in the Pacific Northwest this week.

■ **Cheryl Boone Isaacs** has been re-elected president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for another year.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Drone crashes into hot spring at Yellowstone

**WY** JACKSON — A tourist flew a drone into a Yellowstone National Park hot spring despite a park ban on drones.

Park spokesman Al Nash told the Jackson Hole News & Guide the operator reported that the drone crashed into the picturesque Grand Prismatic Spring last weekend.

The drone is submerged in the spring's 160-degree waters. Officials hope to remove it.

## Woman collapses at music festival, dies

**CA** ANAHEIM — Coroner's officials said a 19-year-old woman who died after suffering seizures at a Southern California electronic music festival had tested positive at a hospital for methamphetamine and Ecstasy.

The Orange County Register reported Tuesday that Emily Tran, of Anaheim, collapsed Sunday while attending the Hard Summer Music Festival at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area.

Coroner's Lt. Fred Corral said initial evidence points to a possible overdose as the cause of death. An autopsy is planned.

## Police: Mother-son firefighters are struck

**KY** GLENDALE — A mother and her son, both firefighters, were in the "mop-up" phase of putting out a vehicle fire along a busy interstate when a semitrailer slammed into their firetruck early Wednesday, killing the son and injuring his mother, police said.

Jonathan French, 25, was killed and his mother, Lisa French, was taken to a hospital where she was in serious condition, Kentucky State Police Trooper Jeff Gregory said.

Firefighting ran in the French family. Jonathan French had volunteered for the Glendale Fire Department for about five years. Lisa French had been there for about seven years. Her brother is the agency's fire chief.

## Veterinarian saves kitten on heroin

**PA** EXTON — A Pennsylvania veterinarian used an overdose reversal drug to save a kitten that had been given heroin.

Police said Tuesday they arrested the suburban Philadelphia man who abused the cat.

West Chester resident James Myers faces charges including animal cruelty and drug possession.

Police in West Whiteland Township said an officer spotted Myers' car parked in the middle of a street Sunday with a door open.

The officer said that under the door he saw an injured black kitten with a rope around its neck and several teeth knocked out. Police said they found bundles of heroin and dozens of needles in the car.

## 'Miranda' graffiti mars sacred Indian site

**WA** CHIMACUM — Graffiti expressing affec-



BUTCH COMEYDS, THE SCRANTON (Pa.) TIMES-TRIBUNE

## Over the hump

An 8-year-old male desert camel named Hershey yawns in the shade at the Safari Farm on Mount Cobb Road in Jefferson Township, Pa., on Tuesday.

tion for someone named Miranda has marred one of the most sacred sites for an American Indian tribe in Washington state. Jamestown S'Klallam officials learned last month of the pink and white painting of "I (heart) Miranda" on the 43 million-year-old Tamanowas Rock northwest of Seattle.

## Interruptions by lawyer result in rare sanction

**IA** SIOUX CITY — A federal judge in Iowa meted out an unusual punishment to a lawyer for repeatedly raising objections and interrupting depositions: She must produce a training video showing why such tactics are inappropriate. Perhaps not surprisingly, her

law firm objected to the ruling.

U.S. District Judge Mark Bennett issued the "outside-the-box sanction" last week to Chicago-based attorney June Ghezzi, a partner at the international law firm Jones Day.

Bennett said that rather than issuing a monetary fine against Ghezzi, he wanted to take a stand against "obstructive deposition practices" that are common and that some litigators are even taught to use.

With that goal in mind, Bennett ordered Ghezzi to write and produce a training video that "provides specific steps lawyers must take to comply" with the rationale of his opinion. He said the video must address the impropriety of lawyers vaguely objecting to the form of

questions, coaching witnesses and excessively interrupting.

## Residents to vote on legalizing pot in capital

**DC** WASHINGTON — District of Columbia residents will vote in November on whether to legalize marijuana.

The D.C. Board of Elections voted Wednesday to add an initiative on marijuana legalization to the November ballot.

If approved, the initiative would allow people 21 or older to possess as much as 2 ounces of pot and to grow as many as six marijuana plants at home.

Earlier this year, Mayor Vincent Gray signed a decriminalization law that makes possession of less

## THE CENSUS

# \$325K

The amount Idaho County commissioners in northern Idaho say the Nez Perce Tribe owes the county in garbage fees. Commissioners late last month sent a letter to Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Chairman Silas C. Whitman demanding the money for garbage collection from 1995 to 2014. The commissioners also want the tribe to budget about \$19,000 annually for garbage collection on property owned by the tribe in Idaho County.



than one ounce of marijuana a civil offense punishable by a \$25 fine.

## Police accuse woman of offering sex acts

**UT** OREM — Orem police have arrested a 50-year-old woman accused of offering sexual favors to massage clients.

Lt. Craig Martinez said detectives began investigating the massage parlor called Foot Massage after receiving citizen tips in June.

Martinez said business listings for the massage parlor featured women in revealing clothing and a business license listed false phone numbers and addresses.

## Man pleads guilty to killing co-worker

**IN** SCOTTSBURG — A southern Indiana man is pleading guilty to a murder charge for the death of a co-worker whose body was hidden for three years.

Robert Riley, 43, of Austin, entered the guilty plea Monday in a Scott County court for the 2009 death of Paul Graupe, 50.

Police said a tip in November 2012 led investigators to Riley's home, where they found Graupe's body hidden in a building on the property.

## Parents upset over new backpack rule

**MA** GULFPORT — The County School District a few weeks ago announced a new policy requiring clear or mesh backpacks in all schools, including elementary, and many parents are upset.

"I'm just kind of flabbergasted about the whole situation," said Rebekah Rush, of Saucier. She had ordered a book bag embroidered with her second-grader's name and matching lunch bag.

The Sun Herald reported county high schools already had that policy, but it was extended to elementary schools this year.

From wire reports



## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## BoFA, US near settlement up to \$17B

By ERIC TUCKER  
and JOSH BOAK

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bank of America is nearing a settlement of between \$16 billion and \$17 billion to resolve an investigation into its role in the sale of mortgage-backed securities before the 2008 financial crisis, a person directly familiar with the matter said Wednesday.

The deal with the bank, which

still must be finalized, would be the largest Justice Department settlement by far arising from the economic meltdown in which millions of Americans lost their homes to foreclosure. It would follow earlier multibillion-dollar agreements reached in the last year with Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase & Co.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal had not yet been announced, cautioned that some details still

needed to be worked out and that it was possible the agreement could fall apart.

But the person said the two sides reached an agreement in principle following a conversation last week between Attorney General Eric Holder and Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan.

The person said the tentative deal calls for the bank to pay roughly \$9 billion in cash and for the remaining sum to go toward consumer relief.

A bank spokesman declined to comment.

The Wall Street Journal first reported details of the settlement discussions on Wednesday.

The deal would be the latest arising from the sale of toxic mortgage securities leading up to the recession. The Justice Department last year reached a \$13 billion settlement with JPMorgan and in July announced a \$7 billion settlement with Citigroup.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 8)	\$1.3716
Dollar buys (Aug. 8)	€0.7291
British pound (Aug. 8)	\$1.73
Japanese yen (Aug. 8)	¥100.00
South Korean won (Aug. 8)	₩1,008.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.6835/£0.5940
Canada (dollar)	1.0922
China (Yuan)	6.1647
Denmark (Krone)	5.8468
Egypt (Pound)	7.1515
Euro	\$1.3349/€0.7491
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7510
Hungary (Forint)	235.63
Israel (Shekel)	3.4634
Japan (Yen)	102.33
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2833
Kyrgyzstan (Som)	6.2531
Philippines (Peso)	44.15
Poland (Zloty)	31.40
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2518
South Korea (Won)	1,026.87
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9097
Thailand (Baht)	32.28
Turkey (New Lira)	2.1586

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, etc.), which use local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.09
3-month bond	0.03
30-year bond	3.27

## EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$3.818	\$4.004	\$4.169	\$4.156
Netherlands	-2.4 cents	-2.2 cents	-2.2 cents	-0.5 cents
Change in price	---	\$4.842	\$5.128	\$5.013
U.K.	---	-4.5 cents	-5.1 cents	-0.5 cents
Change in price	---	\$3.974	\$4.139	\$4.126
Azores	---	-2.2 cents	-2.2 cents	-0.5 cents
Change in price	---	---	---	---
Turkey	---	---	---	---
Change in price	---	\$3.980	\$4.180	\$4.240
Italy	---	-20.8 cents	-21.8 cents	-10.3 cents
Change in price	---	---	\$4.293	\$4.993*
Spain	---	---	-2.1 cents	-4.9 cents
Change in price	---	\$4.180	---	\$4.256
Change in price	---	+9.2 cents	---	+5.5 cents

## PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	---	\$3.689	---	\$3.839
Change in price	---	-2.0 cents	---	-1.0 cents
Okunawa	---	\$3.669	---	\$3.839
Change in price	---	-1.0 cents	---	-1.0 cents
South Korea	---	\$3.639	---	\$3.989
Change in price	---	-3.0 cents	---	-3.0 cents
Guam	---	\$3.629**	\$3.819	\$3.979
Change in price	---	-4.0 cents	-2.0 cents	---

\*Diesel EFD \*\*Midgrade  
For the week of Aug. 9-15

## MARKET WATCH

Aug. 6, 2014

Dow Jones  
Industrials 13.87  
16,443.34

Nasdaq  
Composite 2.22  
4,355.05

Standard &  
Poor's 500 0.03  
1,920.24

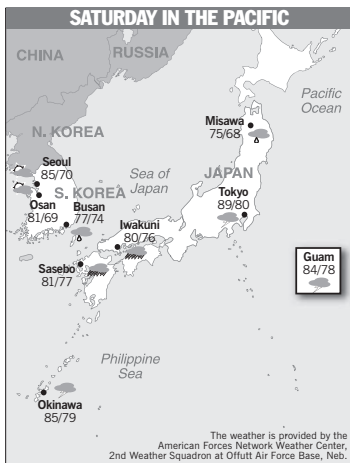
Russell  
2000 3.99  
1,125.55

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



## Friday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex.	96	76	Pdly	Chatanooga	91	71	Rain
Akron, Ohio	78	56	Pdly	Cheyenne	79	55	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	89	55	Cir	Chicago	78	63	Cldy
Albuquerque	89	65	Pdly	Cincinnati	75	64	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	83	54	Cir	Cleveland	78	59	Pdly
Amarillo	94	67	Cir	Colorado Springs	84	56	Cldy
Anchorage	62	54	Cir	Columbia, S.C.	90	73	Cldy
Asheville	78	64	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	93	75	Cldy
Atlanta	90	74	Cir	Concord, N.H.	79	64	Pdly
Atlantic City	84	58	Cir	Corpus Christi	95	78	Pdly
Austin	90	64	Pdly	Dallas-Ft. Worth	100	79	Pdly
Baltimore	86	61	Pdly	Dayton	76	62	Cldy
Baton Rouge	93	75	Pdly	Daytona Beach	91	76	Pdly
Bilings	89	61	Pdly	Denver	82	60	Pdly
Birmingham	94	74	Cldy	Des Moines	77	64	Cldy
Bismarck	84	61	Pdly	Detroit	82	61	Cldy
Boise	92	62	Cir	Duluth	77	57	Pdly
Boston	78	60	Pdly	El Paso	90	70	Cir
Bridgeport	83	59	Cir	Elkins	78	55	Cldy
Brownsville	97	80	Pdly	Erie	76	58	Cir
Buffalo	77	58	Cir	Eugene	82	54	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	79	57	Cir	Evansville	83	69	Rain
Caribou, Maine	75	53	Cir	Fairbanks	74	50	Pdly
Charleston, S.C.	83	53	Pdly	Fargo	80	64	Cldy
Charleston, W.Va.	90	74	Cldy	Flagstaff	79	47	Pdly
Charlotte, N.C.	85	70	Rain	Flint	80	54	Cir
				Fort Smith	97	73	Pdly



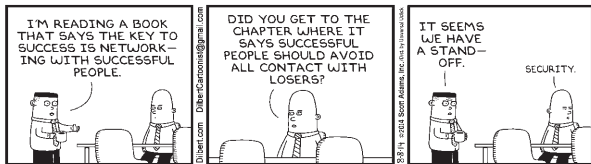
The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Wed., 114, Death Valley, Calif.  
Lo: Wed., 31, Bodie State Park, Calif.

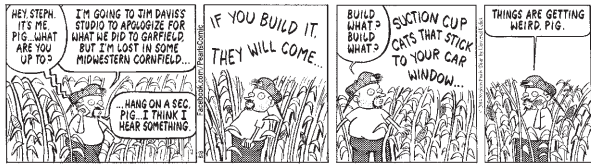
Frazz



Dilbert



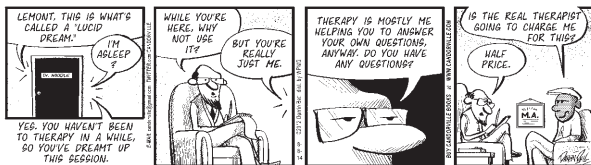
Pearls Before Swine



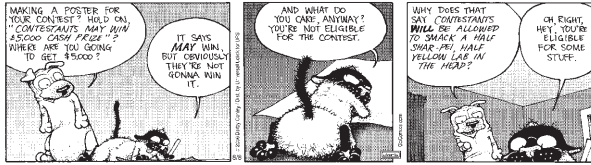
Non Sequitur



Candorville



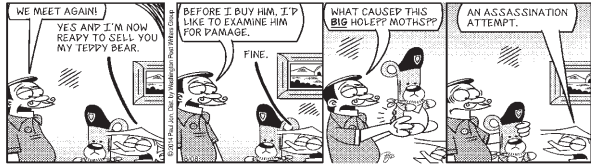
Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
	18			19			20			
21	22		23			24				
25		26		27		28				
29			30		31			32	33	34
		35			36		37			
38	39	40			41		42		43	
44				45			46			
47			48				49		50	51
52			53				54			
55			56				57			

## ACROSS

- Island greeting
- Outback runner
- Foundation
- Hawks' foes
- Aries
- Baseball stat
- Luminaries
- Speech
- Country singer Tritt
- Competent
- J. Edgar's org.
- Karaoke need, or
- Great fear
- Cupid's alias
- Shoe fasteners
- Fireplace shelf
- Entertained
- Fiars Club honor
- Swizzle
- Inexperienced
- Charlotte's creation
- Whatever number
- Wander
- Buccaneer's pet
- Glee
- Operatic showstoppers
- Bygone time, in bygone time
- 8-Ball need
- Baby bird?
- Bambi's Aunt Ena, e.g.
- Before
- Treat for Winnie-the-Pooh
- Rep.'s rival
- Road
- Bring the food
- A billion years
- Depot
- "Ich bin — Berliner"
- Parched
- River Foster's
- sigma
- Midas' undoing
- Psychologist/author
- May
- Dodge
- Audacious
- Serve tea
- "— take arms against ..."
- "Rocks"
- Exist
- Firmament

## DOWN

- Billboards
- Parcel of land
- Round of applause
- Frau's mate
- Tea variety from India
- Beethoven's Third
- Viking destination
- Arch Truman
- Illegal payment
- African virus
- Lite in style
- Ankle
- Country estate
- Not masc.
- Bikini half

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	H	I	P		S	O	L		P	S	I	S
L	I	D	A		O	R	A		R	O	C	A
O	V	E	R		N	O	M		I	N	O	N
D	E	M	A		N	D			P	E	C	A
				D	O	H			V	E	T	
W	I	S	E		E	S	S	A	I	S	T	
E	C	O		I	D	O			N	I	B	
B	E	N	J		A	M	I	N		J	A	D
				G	A	Y			O	W	E	
A	L	B	I	N	O				R	E	J	E
B	O	I	L		L	A	O		U	T	A	H
A	C	R	E		E	M			N	A	V	E
T	O	D	D		O	P	S			E	L	E

8-8

## CRYPTOQUIP

EU JCT'XL WO CXPFCA COPEGP  
WOA JCTX PLLPF WXL HWABJ  
RXCCVLA, E PFE OV JCT  
GFCTBA HXWRL JCTXGLBU.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THE  
SUPERMARKET HAD SO MANY DIFFERENT  
PICKLE CHOICES, I FOUND MYSELF IN A DILL-  
EMMA.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals Y

## STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher  
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe  
Lt. Col. Jeff Myer, Europe commander  
Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander  
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

## EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editorial Director  
leonard.terry@stripes.com  
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
reid.robert@stripes.com  
Sam Amrhein, Deputy Managing Editor  
amrhein.sam@stripes.com  
Tina Croley, Enterprise Editor  
croley.tina@stripes.com

## BUREAU STAFF

## Europe/Mideast

Teddie Weyr, News Editor Europe/Mideast  
weyr.teddie@stripes.com;  
+49(0)631.3615.9310; cell  
+49(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310

## Pacific

Paul Alexander, News Editor Pacific  
alexander.paul@stripes.com  
+81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)5883.1673  
DSN (315)225.5377

## Washington

Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief  
dickson.pat@stripes.com  
(+1)202.761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908  
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
bowers.brian@stripes.com  
Joe Gromelski, Assistant Managing Editor, Web  
gromelski.joe@stripes.com  
Sean Moores, Assistant Managing Editor,  
Sports, Features and Graphics  
moores.sean@stripes.com

## CONTACT US

## Washington

tel: (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;  
fax: (+1)202.761.0890  
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC  
20045-1301

## Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

## Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

## OMBUDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

## OPINION

## No president can have carte blanche

By MEGAN MCARDLE  
Bloomberg News

On Sunday, Ross Douthat of The New York Times wrote an uncharacteristically blistering attack on the plan being floated by the Barack Obama administration to quasi-legalize the status of almost half the immigrants who are now in the country illegally. The details remain somewhat vague but, according to The Washington Post, "Ideas under consideration could include temporary relief for law-abiding undocumented immigrants who are closely related to U.S. citizens or those who have lived in the country a certain number of years — a population that advocates say could reach as high as 5 million."

This is not the first time that the administration has floated this trial balloon, so I think it's safe to say that it is contemplating sweeping unilateral executive action that would grant millions of undocumented immigrants protection from deportation and issue work permits that would allow them to earn a legal living while they are here — at least, unless the news media or the public pushes back.

I agree with Ross: The media and the public should push back. I say this as someone who is broadly supportive of greater legal immigration, and who has tangled with immigration opponents in the past. Whatever your opinion on immigration policy, I hope it doesn't involve supporting giving the president extremely broad powers to simply rewrite any law that he thinks ought to be different. To say he, you need only ask myself a simple question: Would

you like to give this power to a president from the opposing party on a law where the two of you disagree?

The defenses that have so far been mounted of this proto-plan are so far completely unconvincing. There is, for example, the argument that we have to expect this, because Congress is so dysfunctional that the president can't get any laws passed. But this is a terrible example of congressional dysfunction; immigration bills have been failing in Congress for years now, not because Congress is gridlocked, but because this is a difficult and contentious issue, and there's not really a ton of political support for increased immigration. Furthermore, polls on this issue seem to be moving in the wrong direction for the president. In this environment, the most functional Congress in the world might well politely decline to pass a bill that does what the president is proposing.

This has also been compared to Jimmy Carter's sweeping use of the pardon power to give blanket forgiveness to hundreds of thousands of draft dodgers. This simply won't fly, because the president unquestionably had the authority to issue those pardons; it's right there in the Constitution. One could certainly quarrel with the decision to issue those pardons, but not with whether Carter had the right to do so.

Most convincing is the argument that Obama has the right to do this because, after all, the executive branch gets to set enforcement priorities. And yes ... but no. At the point at which you are announcing that the law won't be enforced against a large fraction of the people who are viola-

ting it, then you are effectively rewriting that law. Few of the people who are coming up with these justifications would sit quietly while a Republican president, say, announced that he was ending audits and OSHA inspections for small-business owners so that he could refocus resources on earned income tax credit fraud. And if you wouldn't view that as an acceptable use of the president's power, then you should not endorse this power grab, either. Immigration is an important issue, one on which I would like to see significant changes in policy. But the rule of law is an even more important one.

The last 15 years have witnessed far too many presidential assertions of unconstitutional authority — and too many members of both parties who were willing to endorse those extralegal actions as long as it was their guy bending the rules. The result is a constant ratchet toward an imperial presidency.

Am I saying that the dark night of fascism will descend upon us all if Obama goes forward with this? Of course not. There is a lot of ruin in a nation: American presidents have tried these sorts of power grabs before, from the suspension of habeas corpus to court packing to, I dunno, Richard Nixon's whole last year in office. But do you know why the dark night of fascism never descended? Because long before we got to that point, honorable politicians, journalists and citizens said "Enough." It's time for all of us to say that again, loud enough for President Obama to hear it.

Megan McArdle is a Bloomberg View columnist who writes on economics, business and public policy.

## Arguments for displaying Rebel flag don't fly

By ROBERT MCCARTNEY

The Washington Post

HUBERT WAYNE CASH, 65, a Navy veteran and retired phone company worker, spent an hour at his home Tuesday explaining why he allowed the recent erection of a giant Confederate battle flag in his wooded backyard north of Fredericksburg, Va., overlooking busy Interstate 95.

"I've got 50 ancestors who fought in the Civil War," Cash said. "I honor their heritage."

Lights are being installed so the provocative banner will be visible at night. Cash said he leased the ground at a token price to the Virginia Flaggers, who share his sympathies for Southern secession, so the flag can fly "for at least 100 years."

The gray-bearded Cash was gracious and thoughtful. I applaud his willingness to answer skeptical questions from an incorrigibly pro-Yankee news columnist.

But I still think Cash and his allies are wrong to display the flag. It's the principal emblem today of a hateful cause — the protection of slavery — from which it cannot be divorced.

Germans don't use Nazi swastika flags to honor their dead from World War II. The same logic applies to the Confederacy, and if the Nazis' sins were worse than those of Jefferson Davis and company.

Of course, the United States can't ban the Rebel banner outright, as German law prohibits the display of swastikas. The First Amendment protects freedom of speech.

But the public can and should try to shame the Confederacy fan club into scrapping the emblem of a wicked purpose and leaving it to be displayed only in museums

and history books.

There are plenty of other ways to commemorate one's Rebel ancestors. What about plaques, flowers or the Virginia state flag? The Confederacy was big on states' rights.

The flag on Cash's property in southern Stafford County drew objections from the local NAACP and several people whom I interviewed at a nearby convenience store.

"I don't think it's a good idea," Wayne Samuel, 61, said. "It could be encouraging hatred."

Vickie Browning, 51, said, "I think it needs to be replaced by an American flag. [The Civil War] is done. It's over. They need to let it go."

It isn't the only Rebel banner to arouse controversy recently. Washington and Lee University last month removed Confederate flags from Lee Chapel — where the Rebels' most famous general, Robert E. Lee, is buried — following protests from African-American students.

Here's my main complaint about the flaggers, which Cash did little to dispel: Like many in the "Southern heritage" movement, they aren't just committed to honoring individual Rebel soldiers. They insist also on trying to whitewash the Confederacy by saying the Civil War was about something other than slavery.

This was evident in the Virginia Flaggers' announcement of the May 31 erection of the Stafford County flag.

The group said on its website that the Confederates took up arms for the sake of the "preservation of liberty and freedom guaranteed by our forefathers and embodied in the US Constitution of 1788."

It's a glaring contradiction to say the Confederacy fought for "liberty and free-

dom," given that the driving force behind secession was opposition to the election of Abraham Lincoln as president. He philosophically opposed slavery and wanted to block its expansion.

Note also the flaggers' enthusiasm for the U.S. Constitution of 1788, which formally counted slaves as three-fifths of a person.

Cash endorsed this interpretation of history. He said the Confederates were motivated principally by opposition to taxation, and he stressed that he bore no personal racial animus.

"We're not sitting around like a bunch of yokels thinking slavery was a good thing," Cash, speaking in his first news media interview, said.

Adding that none of his Confederate ancestors owned slaves, he said, "You think they fought for someone else's slaves?"

Well, yes. His forebears may not have intended it, but that was the result.

Consider South Carolina, which started the fighting by bombarding Fort Sumter. Its formal explanation for seceding focused overwhelmingly on complaints arising from what it called "the increasing hostility on the part of the non-slaveholding States to the Institution of Slavery."

Or listen to prominent Civil War historian James McPherson. His Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "Battle Cry of Freedom," says, "The upper South, like the lower, went to war to defend the freedom of white men to own slaves and to take them into the territories as they saw fit."

That's how history happened. We should discourage the misguided from using an offensive flag to pretend otherwise.

Robert McCartney is a Washington Post columnist.



## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

## Onshore tax reform preferred Tampa (Fla.) Tribune

President Barack Obama wants to lash "corporate deserters" — companies that move overseas to avoid U.S. taxes — with penalties and additional regulations.

It is another case of the president trying to pit Americans against one another instead of supporting an economy that would offer more jobs and opportunities for everyone.

"These companies are cherry-picking the rules, and it damages the country's finances," the president said in California last month. "It adds to the deficit. It sticks you with the tab to make up for what they are shuffling offshore."

Denying the lack of "corporate patriotism" may sound good on the campaign stump, but if the president was genuinely interested in keeping American companies from shifting operations overseas, he would attack the country's tax burden.

The nation's 35 percent corporate tax rate is the highest in the industrial world, and even though companies allow some citizens to pay considerably less, the U.S. tax rate remains unduly burdensome, precisely the reason more companies are moving abroad.

As The Wall Street Journal points out, when state taxes are added, the average corporate tax rate in the United States is 40 percent, double the average in Europe.

Small wonder companies look for relief. Since 1983, according to the Congressional Research Service, 76 companies have moved their corporate headquarters from the United States — 47 in the past decade.

The Journal reports 19 such deals in the past year.

In a recent Wall Street Journal commentary, Wall Street's immediate past chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers' Tax Committee, wrote, "American businesses are taxed on a worldwide basis regardless of where in the world revenue is earned. This means U.S. multinationals pay taxes twice, first to the foreign country in which they do business and then to the U.S."

It seems to us that "corporate patriotism" should mean making American businesses as strong as possible. The president — and Congress — should stop looking for scapegoats and get serious about corporate tax reform.

## China part of Africa Summit The New York Times

Even as the Ebola virus serves as a reminder of Africa's manifold challenges, a much brighter future for the continent was on display in Washington, D.C., where more than 40 African heads of state attended a summit meeting led by President Barack Obama. Done right, with sufficient follow-through, the event should strengthen American ties to a continent that is expected to outpace China and India in population by 2040 and is widely viewed as the world's last major economic frontier.

The event is a determined, and splashy, initiative by Obama to push back against other countries doing business there, especially China, which is investing heavily in infrastructure projects and using Africa as a source of vital oil and metals. It is also an opportunity to counter critics who say he has devoted insufficient attention to the continent.

Administration officials have been



DMITRY LOVETSKY/AP

Local resident Galina Dudkina gestures near to an entrance with "Bomb Shelter" written on the side, as she waits for shelling to start in Donetsk, Ukraine, on Monday.

eager to persuade Africa that America's democratic capitalist system can offer advantages that China's authoritarian system cannot. As Susan Rice, the national security adviser, said last week, "We don't see Africa as a pipeline to extract vital resources, nor as a funnel for charity." She described a broader vision in which the United States is committed to being a partner to create jobs, resolve conflicts and develop the human capital needed to build a better future.

To that end, the summit meeting was preceded by a gathering of 500 participants in Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative. Other events included forums on women, health, trade, food security and civil society. Still others brought together American corporate executives with African leaders.

The world has largely associated Africa with desperate struggles against war, poverty, famine and dictatorial leaders. But there are positive trends, too. Africa is home to six of the 10 fastest-growing economies in the world, an emerging middle class and markets that are increasingly open to foreign investment. In short, there is money to be made there.

There is also a growing threat from militants in some countries. And, as human rights groups point out, the summit meeting's focus on trade, investment and counterterrorism cannot be allowed to dilute the Obama administration's willingness to press for good and honest governance, fair elections and human rights, all essential for long-term stability and growth.

## Need full-court press for Bae The Seattle Times

The longest-held American in North Korea since the Korean War is struggling from health problems that have twice put him in a hospital.

Kenneth Bae, a former Lynnwood, Wash., resident, now faces the possibility of being sent back to a North Korean labor camp, according to a July 31 interview with The Choson Sinbo, a newspaper based in Japan. No one outside of the reclusive North Korean regime understands the exact nature of Bae's alleged crimes, for which he was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor.

The 46-year-old tour operator has been held since November 2012. In a labor camp video obtained by CNN, Bae said he is trying to remain emotionally strong, but he suffers from chronic diabetes, back and other problems.

U.S. State Department officials must act urgently to secure this American's release on humanitarian grounds, whether that means continuing to rely on the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang, working diplo-

matic channels with North Korean officials at the United Nations in New York City or sending a high-level emissary the regime is willing to allow inside its borders.

On the eve of his 46th birthday on Aug. 1, Bae's family released a statement with a desperate plea: "Twice Kenneth has been hospitalized due to his health failing after months of strenuous hard labor, eight hours a day, eight days a week. We fear Kenneth's body will not be able to survive being sent back to labor camp for the third time."

Columbia University professor Charles K. Armstrong, an expert on North Korea, says Bae's situation is unusual, but the Obama administration should remain engaged.

"This can still be solved," he says. "There has to be pressure on Washington, D.C., to work out an agreement at a higher level to try to get [Bae] out."

## Putin's tactics threaten NATO The Wall Street Journal

NATO's promise of collective security rests on the notion that aggression against one member of the Atlantic alliance triggers a response from all. Yet Russia's swift, steady operation to annex Crimea and destabilize eastern Ukraine has cast doubt on the alliance's capacity to fulfill that promise. What can NATO realistically do if Vladimir Putin sets his sights on the Baltic states?

The latest warning comes in a new report by the Defense Committee of the U.K. House of Commons. The report surveys NATO's widening conventional capability gap with Russia, highlights the Kremlin's aggressive nuclear posture and points to the doctrinal limitations that could hampering a response to the next round of aggression.

Its stark conclusion: "NATO is currently not well-prepared for a Russian threat against a NATO Member State." Case in point: The British Army now fields a grand total of 156 main battle tanks, amounting to a single regiment. Russia has more than 2,800 active main battle tanks, according to a 2013 study by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. The committee notes that the Kremlin has unveiled an ambitious plan to expand and modernize Russia's conventional forces, with the aim to increase the proportion of conventional assets classed as "modern" to 70 percent by 2020, up from 10 percent in 2012.

Then there is Russia's bold nuclear-force posture. "Russia sees its strategic nuclear forces as a key deterrent to potential Western intervention or belated response to Russian aggression," the committee writes. "Russia dedicates a third of its Defense budget to them." Moscow has at least twice

since 2009 simulated nuclear strikes, including one targeting Warsaw, Poland. By contrast, the Obama administration earlier this year announced plans for sharp, and unilateral, cuts to the U.S. strategic force well ahead of the 2018 deadline set by the New Start treaty.

The committee's most important findings relate to outdated doctrines that could prevent the alliance from keeping pace with Moscow's sophisticated, evolving strategy. A linchpin of Russian strategy is what the committee calls "ambiguous warfare." As one Russian defense theorist puts it, ambiguous warfare involves using irregular forces, cyberattacks and information warfare to "neutralize adversary actions without resorting to weapons (through indirect actions), by exercising information superiority."

The trouble ambiguous warfare poses to NATO is that the alliance's collective-defense obligations, and the strategic doctrines pinned to them, call for responding to "armed" assaults. But Russian aggression against, say, Lithuania may not look like an outright assault. The Kremlin is more likely to use Russian-language media to agitate the country's ethnic-Russian population while debilitating basic state functions through cyberattacks and the deployment of irregular combatants.

The Crimean operation provided a blueprint for such attacks, and the Atlantic alliance would be foolish not to update its doctrines to meet the new Russian threat on the map. It is known that the surges in Cardiff, Wales, in September. But no amount of doctrinal evolution will matter if NATO members continue to treat national defense as someone else's burden.

## Get supplies, not GIs, to Ukraine The (Bowling Green, Ky.) Daily News

The situation in Ukraine is getting worse every day.

Pro-Russian rebels are destabilizing that country, and the latest reports are that the Russian military is sending in heavy military hardware such as heavy machine guns, tanks and anti-aircraft guns.

Russian officials deny they are backing pro-Russian rebels, but it is quite obvious from information on the ground that they are not being truthful.

The Russians have a lot of blood on their hands. While it has not been 100 percent clear, it is known that the surface-to-air missile that shot down a Malaysian passenger plane a few weeks ago was launched from an area controlled by Russian-backed separatists inside of Ukraine. The death toll from the incident is 289.

Some Ukrainian soldiers have been killed by these pro-Russian rebels as well.

The bottom line is the people of Ukraine need help. They are literally fighting for the survival of their country.

The government in Ukraine has asked for help and indicated it needs heavy weaponry to try to fend off pro-Russian rebels.

The U.S. has just given them meals, ready to eat, or MREs, night-vision goggles, canteens and bullet-proof vests. This is a nice gesture, but these are things that aren't really going to turn the tide on the battlefield.

We agree with President Barack Obama and other leaders that there should be no American boots on the ground in Ukraine, but we could give that nation such things as anti-aircraft guns, anti-tank weapons, heavy machine guns and artillery, ammunition and other types of hardware they need.

By doing so, we would be keeping boots off the ground, protecting an ally and showing Russia we will not tolerate its aggression on a sovereign nation.

We would also be giving the Ukrainian military a lifeline where it could prevail.

They deserve a chance to defend themselves, but they need the necessary military hardware.



## SPORTS BRIEFS/NFL

## Briefly

# T-Wolves set to deal Love to Cavs

The Associated Press

Two people with knowledge of the deal tell The Associated Press that Minnesota and Cleveland have agreed to a trade that will send All-Star forward Kevin Love to the Cavaliers for Andrew Wiggins, Anthony Bennett and a future first-round draft pick.

The two people spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity because no official agreement can be reached until Aug. 23, when Wiggins, this year's No. 1 draft pick, becomes eligible to be traded.

The deal will unite Love, LeBron James and Kyrie Irving in a new look Big 3 in Cleveland. Love is a three-time All-Star, but failed to make the playoffs in his first six seasons in Minnesota.

In other NBA news:

■ The New York Knicks acquired forwards Quincy Acy and Travis Outlaw from the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday for guard Wayne Ellington and forward Jeremy Tyler.

Also, New York reduced the protection on a 2016 second-round draft pick it sent to Portland in 2012 and the Kings later acquired from the Trail Blazers.

■ Former No. 1 NBA draft pick Greg Oden has been arrested in Indianapolis on misdemeanor battery charges.

Marion County Jail records show that Oden was booked Thursday on the charges. He was arrested by police in the suburban community of Lawrence. Details were not immediately available.

## AP sources: Trump first up in meeting with Bills

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The sale of the Buffalo Bills has entered the next phase with prospective ownership groups meeting with team officials to prepare formal bids.

Two people familiar with the sale process confirmed to The Associated Press that New York real estate mogul Donald Trump was the first to receive a presentation, which took place in the Detroit-area on Wednesday. Buffalo Sabres owners Terry and Kim Pegula and a Toronto group fronted by rocker Jon Bon Jovi also have scheduled meetings.

The people spoke on the con-

dition of anonymity because the sale process is private.

The Buffalo News first reported the development on its website Thursday.

During the meetings, prospective buyers receive extensive financial and background information on the franchise.

Bids are expected to be submitted within three weeks.

In other NFL news:

■ Atlanta Falcons rookie line-backer Marquise Spillie will miss the season with a left knee injury. Coach Mike Smith said Thursday Spillie tore his anterior cruciate ligament late in Wednesday's practice. Spillie was on the field for several minutes before walking off with the help of trainers.

## Prosecutor: Pistorius is 'appalling witness'

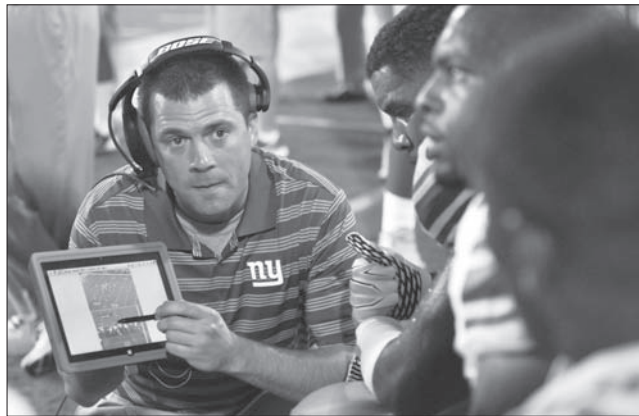
PRETORIA, South Africa — Oscar Pistorius was an "appalling witness" who repeatedly lied in his testimony in a crude attempt to defend against a murder charge for killing girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp, the chief prosecutor said Thursday during closing arguments in the athlete's trial.

Prosecutor Gerrie Nel also harshly criticized the legal team of the double-amputee athlete, saying it floated more than one theory about what happened on the night that Pistorius shot Steenkamp through a closed toilet door in his home.

Defense lawyers, Nel said, had argued that Pistorius acted in self-defense, fearing an intruder was in the house, but also raised the possibility that he was not criminally responsible, accidentally shooting Steenkamp because he was "startled."

"It's two defenses that you can never reconcile," Nel said as Pistorius sat behind him in the dock.

Barry Roux, the chief defense lawyer, listened and checked files as Nel spoke for hours, occasionally urged by Judge Thokozile Masipa to speed it up, as he elaborated on the prosecution's written arguments of more than 100 pages that were submitted to the court last week. Roux will present his final arguments on Friday before Masipa adjourns the trial to deliberate with two legal assistants on a verdict.



DAVID RICHARD/AP

New York Giants tight end coach Kevin Gilbride uses a Microsoft Surface tablet on the sidelines at the Pro Football Hall of Fame preseason game against the Buffalo Bills last Sunday in Canton, Ohio.

## Circuit: Tablets will only show pictures ... for now

FROM BACK PAGE

Indianapolis Colts tight end Dwayne Allen, though, suggested that allowing video would improve the sport by making games even more competitive. And just as instant replay, once revolutionary, is now widely accepted and has been expanded over the years, the same could take place with the tablets. Adding video is possible in the future, NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said.

That would need to go through the league's competition committee, just as the introduction of tablets did. The NFL signed a sponsorship deal with Microsoft last year, which includes the standard promotions of sticking the league's logo on products and a more sophisticated collaboration of making NFL content available on Xbox.

But the company also became a sort of bonus IT department, engineering its Surface tablets to withstand the rigors of the NFL sideline. Searing heat in Arizona. Pouring rain in Seattle. Frigid cold in Green Bay. The screens had to be viewable in the glare of the sun.

And the devices couldn't be vulnerable to hacking — a real concern in a league famous for paranoid coaches, where the term "Spygate" was spawned. The tablets will be locked in a temperature-controlled cart by the NFL during the week. They'll operate on a secure wireless network in stadiums.

The specialized tablets come in a protective case with an attached grip to make holding it easier. There will be 13 on each sideline and another 12 in the coaches' box. Other than that, the only people on the sideline allowed to carry digital devices are the medical staff.

Players and coaches can zoom in on each photo and write on it, either with their finger or an attached stylus.

Sometimes with the old paper printouts, New York Jets coach Rex Ryan recalled, "you'd get them back and you're like, 'Man, what is this?'"

"This should be a lot nicer and the quality a heck of a lot better," he said.

The old paper system will remain in place, both as

a backup in case the technology fails, and for those coaches and players who don't want to switch.

"I'm old school," said Ravens defensive coordinator Dean Pees, who watches games from upstairs and figures he'll keep using the hard copies because they work fine for his needs.

Still, the NFL's McCarthy predicts even the most old-school coaches — and the league has plenty — might be swayed if they suspect the other team is gaining an advantage. The photos will arrive to the tablets in a few seconds, and getting them even a half-minute faster is worth it to these ultra-competitive men who constantly seek the slimmest of edges.

Consider if the Ravens defense makes a stop, but then the offense immediately commits a turnover. The tablet may be the difference in Baltimore's defensive players seeing some photos of the previous series before they run back onto the field.

Washington Redskins offensive coordinator Sean McVay said the tablets would also speed up looking for, say, first-half plays during the fourth quarter. "I'm all for trying anything new," said Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Adam Gase, "and if it can help us in any way, adjust off that."

If the tablets malfunction for one team before the game, then they're disabled for both clubs. But if they crash after kickoff, the other squad can keep using them, to prevent coaches from pretending that the devices aren't working in an attempt to gain an advantage in a game that's not going well.

The preseason offers teams a chance to test and grow comfortable with the new technology before the games start counting, and for the league and Microsoft to work out any kinks.

Many of the players, of course, have been tapping on high-tech gadgets since they were kids. Teams are using them more and more during the week.

Under Whisenhunt, for instance, the Titans have added iPads for playbooks and an extra camera in the end zone during practice for extra angles.

But on Sundays, for now, the NFL is inching forward.

YOUR low price JOURNEY STARTS HERE

FREE SAME-DAY SHIPPING!

For most orders. Some restrictions apply.

**\$70**  
GET A  
**VISA® PREPAID CARD**  
WHEN YOU BUY ANY SET OF 4 MICHELIN TIRES.  
ONLINE OR MAIL-IN REBATE. VALID 8/10/14 THROUGH 9/17/14.



MICHELIN GOODYEAR BF Goodrich PIRELLI FALKEN YOKOHAMA NITTO Continental COOPERTIRES

**DISCOUNT**  
**TIRE DIRECT**  
discounttiredirect.com

**888-459-4058**  
**602-735-1800**

M-F: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. SAT: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. EST



## NFL

# Bills' Spiller out to prove critics wrong

By JOHN WAWROW  
The Associated Press

PITTSFORD, N.Y. — Don't think for an instant that C.J. Spiller failed to notice several of his critics last season who began referring to him as a "one-year wonder."

The Buffalo Bills' running back took names, and says he's ready to produce the stats in a bid to prove his doubters wrong, once and for all.

"Oh yeah, it's definitely a fire burning. I haven't forgotten what was written out there."



Spiller

Spiller told The Associated Press following a recent practice in training camp, "I've got my axe ready to chip away some wood."

Spiller's defiance is a reflection of the motivation he has entering his fifth season in what's been an up-and-down career in Buffalo since being drafted with the ninth pick out of Clemson.

After having difficulty establishing a niche during his first two seasons in Buffalo, Spiller enjoyed a breakout year in 2012. That's when he earned his first and only Pro Bowl selection after becoming only the NFL's seventh player to average 6-plus yards a carry by finishing with 1,244 yards on 207 attempts.

Spiller's league value was a fraction of an inch behind league leader, Minnesota's Adrian Peterson. And it led Spiller to raise his expectations by suggesting a 2,000-yard season was not out of reach last season.



BILL WIPPERT/AP

**Buffalo Bills running back C.J. Spiller runs past safety Aaron Williams during training camp drills in Pittsford, N.Y. Spiller is aware of what the critics wrote about him last year. The worst was when he was called a "one-year wonder," without taking into account that Spiller was hampered by a sprained ankle. Saying he's healthy, Spiller entered training camp this season ready to prove his doubters wrong.**

Unfortunately, the chances of that happening were derailed from the start.

Spiller was dealing with off-field issues last August, when his step-grandfather shot and killed two people before killing himself in Florida. Then he was undone by injuries by first straining his right quadriceps, before being

hobbled by a high ankle sprain that never had time to heal.

He finished with 933 yards rushing and was limited to 10 starts in 15 games.

"Obviously, I wish I wouldn't have gotten hurt. But that's one of the things that just happen," Spiller said, assessing the year. "But to be able to do what I was

able to do with me just having one healthy leg, I thought it was very impressive."

Fully healed, Spiller is eager to show he's regained his powerful stride.

"I feel 100 percent," he said.

The Bills are counting on that, because Spiller remains an integral part of their offense's

strength: the run game.

Despite injuries to Spiller and co-star Fred Jackson, the Bills still finished second in the NFL with 2,307 yards rushing — Buffalo's highest total since 1992.

The Bills also spent the offseason adding depth to their backfield by acquiring Bryce Brown in a trade with Philadelphia, and signing Anthony Dixon in free agency.

The additions were made to provide insurance against injuries. What they've also done is led to some speculation about Spiller being expendable because he's entering the final year of his contract.

Spiller dismissed the questions. "One thing I've learned is that you can't believe everything out there, and I don't," he said. "I'm a Buffalo Bill through and through. I love this place. This organization loves me. I'm here until further notice."

Offensive coordinator Nathaniel Hackett foresees Spiller playing a big role in Buffalo this season.

"When you have a player like C.J., you want to get him out there a whole bunch," Hackett said. "He's a great player, and we have to feature him just like we have to feature a lot of guys."

The Bills are being careful in keeping Spiller fresh for the regular season by limiting his playing time in practice and preseason games. Spiller had just one carry for 2 yards in a 17-13 preseason-opening loss to the New York Giants on Sunday.

Spiller's ready, and still stung by what some people wrote or said about him last year.

"That's what people get paid to write," Spiller said. "I definitely remember what was written. And I won't forget it."

## Cornerback depth concerns Lions

By LARRY LAGE  
The Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — The Detroit Lions appear to be thin on talent at cornerback, counting on veteran Rashean Mathis and second-year pro Darius Slay to be starters.

Behind them, only Cassius Vaughn has significant experience in the NFL. "Every team can't be balanced," Mathis said after Tuesday's practice. "If people think we're a weakness now, hopefully they change their mind by the end of the season."

Detroit's cornerbacks will face opponents for the first time this year on Saturday night at home against the Cleveland Browns in an exhibition game.

Mathis believes Slay is ready to be a first-string player in his second season, replacing Chris Houston, who was cut in June because the team did not know when he would recover from foot surgery.

"He's up for the challenge," Mathis said. "Once he has the fire under his feet, we'll see how he reacts because

he'll be facing some of the most talented players in the world. Last year, it was easy to get him to waver because he was a rookie.

"That's part of growing and knowing that the best corner in the world — Deion Sanders — got beat sometimes," Slay, a second-round pick last year, started the first two games of his NFL career and two games late in the season. He responded, "Oh yeah," when asked if he was eager to be in the spotlight opposite Mathis. After some growing pains, getting down on himself after giving up receptions, he feels ready to compete against the best.

"I'm stronger, faster and smarter," Slay said.

The Lions decided not to commit a lot of money toward improving their situation at cornerback during the off-season, re-signing Mathis to a one-year deal in April, and adding Vaughn and Aaron Hester as free agents.

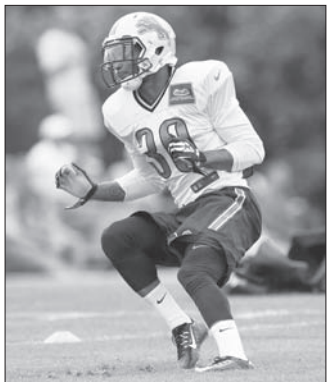
Detroit did not draft a cornerback until the fourth round when it selected Utah State standout Nevin Lawson with the No. 133 pick overall. "I'm in a great position with an opportunity to get a fair shot to get on the field," Lawson said. "They drafted me, expecting me to produce and not just sit."

The Lions drafted three cornerbacks two years ago, taking Bill Bentley in the third, Chris Greenwood the fifth and Jonte Green the sixth. And, none of them have panned out.

When Slay walked off the field Monday with a neck injury, Vaughn replaced him. He was not surprised to get the nod after starting in 18 games over his first four seasons in the league with Indianapolis and Denver.

"I don't see myself as anybody's backup," Vaughn said. "I have been a starter in this league and I can still be if there's an opportunity. But it's about our unit, and we're going to be one of the best in the league."

Vaughn knows no one outside of the organization may agree with him. "There's no reason we can't be a top-10 unit," he said. "When you start winning, people will hush their mouths. I like our talent and we have a lot of young guys who are hungry to show what they can do."



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

**Detroit Lions cornerback Darius Slay runs through drills during the team's training camp session in Allen Park, Mich., on Tuesday. The Lions appear thin on talent at cornerback, counting on veteran Rashean Mathis and second-year pro Slay in the starting lineup.**

## NFL

Running back Jamaal Charles' new contract extension adds about \$18.1 million to his deal and will keep him with the Kansas City Chiefs through the 2017 season.

DAVID EULITT,  
KANSAS CITY STAR/MCT

# KC to Canton

## Chiefs RB Charles sets sights on reaching the Hall of Fame

By DAVE SKRETTA  
The Associated Press

At some point this season, likely within the first couple of games, Jamaal Charles will slide past Larry Johnson and breeze past Priest Holmes to become the Chiefs' career rushing leader.

It's a goal, sure. But it's only a rest-stop on the way to loftier expectations.

After arguably the best season of his career and now armed with a new contract extension, Charles has his sights set on the Hall of Fame. The two-time All-Pro running back wants his name to be mentioned in the same breath as Emmitt Smith and Barry Sanders, players he grew up idolizing in Fort Arthur, Texas, and who will forever be considered some of the best to play the game.

"It's all about staying consistent," Charles said. "I want to be in the Hall of Fame when I retire. I want to win a championship. That's what it's all about."

The Chiefs certainly want him to accomplish all of that with them. When he was putting up Madden-like numbers last season, including a dazzling five-touchdown performance against Oakland, the franchise was quietly reaching out to his agents about a contract extension. They knew there was no way Charles would play for the relatively paltry sum that he was making, so they were proactive in working out a way to fairly compensate him.

The negotiations finally became public as training camp approached, and the deal was consum-

### Gaining ground



Jamaal Charles is third on the Kansas City Chiefs' all-time rushing leaders and needs just 248 yards this season to become the team's all-time leader, surpassing Priest Holmes (statistics also include yardage gained while members of the franchise's days in the American Football League (Dallas Texans, 1960-62 and Kansas City Chiefs (1963-69):

Player	Seasons	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Priest Holmes	2001-05/07	1,321	6,070	4.59	76
Larry Johnson	2003-09	1,375	6,015	4.37	55
Jamaal Charles	2008-active	1,043	5,823	5.58	29
Christian Okoye	1987-92	1,246	4,897	3.93	40
Ed Podolak	1970-77	1,157	4,451	3.85	34

Source: kcchiefs.com

mated the day before Charles was to step on the field for the first full-squad workout.

The new deal adds about \$18.1 million to Charles' contract, but more importantly to him, keeps him in Kansas City through the 2017 season. And if he matches his production of last season, which included more than 1,200 yards rushing, four more years would mean eclipsing 10,000 for his career — more than Hall of Famers such as Earl Campbell, another product of Texas.

"Jamaal is our best player," said linebacker Derrick Johnson, who works out with Charles in the off-season. "He's a guy that we look up to. We put a lot of pressure on him to be our horse."

More than just a horse in Andy Reid's offense, though.

In the world of the NFL running back, where versatility is in high demand, Charles has become one of the game's most dynamic players. The Vikings' Adrian Peterson may remain the best pure runner in the league, but Charles proved last season that he can do much more than that, catching a career-best 70 passes for 693 yards and seven touchdowns.

"When it's in the heat of the battle, and it's kind of crunch time, you want your guys on the field, and that's the bottom line," Chiefs offensive coordinator Doug Pederson said. "Jamaal's a part of that and he's going to be on the football field regardless of how many touches he's had early in the game, or how many plays he has leading up to that point."

Besides, how else is he to continue his rapid climb in the record books?

Charles needs 248 yards rushing and 333 carries to become the Chiefs' career leader in each of the categories. He needs to merely maintain his average of 5.6 yards per carry to shatter the NFL's career mark of 5.22, held since 1965 by Hall of Famer Jim Brown.

Charles would turn 32 in December of the final year of his contract extension, a relatively advanced age for his position. But asked whether he'll be able to play out his deal, Charles had no doubts.

"I'm still fresh, I'm still feeling good," he said. "If I continue to work hard, I can go far. My philosophy is that hard work pays off. If I continue to work hard, things can still come to me."

**'It's all about staying consistent. I want to be in the Hall of Fame when I retire. I want to win a championship. That's what it's all about.'**

**Jamaal Charles**  
Kansas City Chiefs running back

# MLB SCOREBOARD

American League										National League																																							
East Division					Central Division					West Division					NL East					NL Central					NL West																								
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB																					
Baltimore	64	49	.566	—	Washington	58	56	.509	4	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Atlanta	62	54	.534	2½		San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—																		
New York	61	54	.530	4	Atlanta	58	56	.509	4	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		St. Louis	60	52	.534	—		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Tampa Bay	55	59	.482	9½	Milwaukee	55	58	.487	6½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Boston	49	64	.434	14	Cincinnati	51	63	.447	11	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Central Division										West Division										NL East										NL Central										NL West									
Detroit	62	49	.559	—	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Atlanta	62	54	.534	2½		San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—																		
Kansas City	59	53	.527	3½	St. Louis	60	52	.534	—	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Chicago	57	57	.500	6½	Pittsburgh	53	63	.454	11½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Minnesota	51	65	.439	11½	Milwaukee	55	58	.487	6½	St. Louis	53	63	.454	29	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
West Division										NL Central										NL East										NL West																			
Oakland	69	44	.611	—	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6	St. Louis	60	52	.534	—	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Los Angeles	67	46	.593	2	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Houston	47	67	.412	22½	Milwaukee	55	58	.487	6½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Texas	45	69	.395	24½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30	Pittsburgh	47	67	.412	32		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
National League										West Division										NL Central										NL East										NL West									
East Division					Central Division					West Division					NL East					NL Central					NL West																								
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB																					
Washington	58	56	.509	4	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Atlanta	62	54	.534	2½		San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—																		
Atlanta	58	56	.509	4	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6	St. Louis	60	52	.534	—		San Diego	52	61	.460	24		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Miami	55	58	.487	6½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30	Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
New York	54	64	.458	12	Cincinnati	51	63	.447	11	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Philadelphia	51	63	.447	11	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Central Division										West Division										NL East										NL Central										NL West									
Milwaukee	62	54	.534	—	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	Atlanta	62	54	.534	2½		San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—																		
St. Louis	60	52	.534	—	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6	St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		San Diego	52	61	.460	24		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
Pittsburgh	53	63	.454	11½	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30	Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Cincinnati	51	63	.447	11	Milwaukee	55	58	.487	6½	St. Louis	53	63	.454	29	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30	Pittsburgh	47	67	.412	32		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
West Division										NL Central										NL East										NL West																			
Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6	St. Louis	60	52	.534	—	San Francisco	57	57	.500	6		Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
San Francisco	57	57	.500	6	Los Angeles	65	50	.565	—	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		St. Louis	53	63	.454	29		San Diego	52	61	.460	24																		
San Diego	52	61	.460	24	San Diego	52	61	.460	24	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Colorado	45	68	.398	29	Chicago	49	65	.430	31	Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30	Pittsburgh	47	67	.412	32		Chicago	49	65	.430	31		Philadelphia	52	64	.448	30																		
Tuesday's games										Wednesday's games										Thursday's games										Friday's games																			
Detroit 4, N.Y. Yankees 12 (Innings 12)										Texas 3, Chicago White Sox 1										St. Louis 5, Oakland 3										N.Y. Yankees 5, Detroit 1																			
Baltimore 9, Toronto 3										Minnesota 3, San Diego 1										Pittsburgh 6, Chicago White Sox 0										Oakland 3, Tampa Bay 0																			
Minnesota 3, San Diego 1										Pittsburgh 6, Chicago White Sox 0										Oakland 3, Tampa Bay 0										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2																			
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago White Sox 0										Oakland 3, Tampa Bay 0										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1																			
Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco 7, Milwaukee 4																			
San Francisco 7, Milwaukee 4										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Colorado 13, Chicago Cubs 4																			
Colorado 13, Chicago Cubs 4										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Kansas City 4, Arizona 3																			
Kansas City 4, Arizona 3										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cleveland at Philadelphia																			
Cleveland at Philadelphia										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco at Milwaukee																			
San Francisco at Milwaukee										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh																			
Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati at Cincinnati																			
Cincinnati at Cincinnati										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Boston at St. Louis																			
Boston at St. Louis										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Kansas City at Arizona																			
Kansas City at Arizona										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Los Angeles at L.A. Angels 1																			
Los Angeles at L.A. Angels 1										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Detroit at N.Y. Yankees																			
Detroit at N.Y. Yankees										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Baltimore at Toronto																			
Baltimore at Toronto										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cleveland at Oakland																			
Cleveland at Oakland										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Chicago White Sox at Seattle																			
Chicago White Sox at Seattle										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Friday's games																			
Friday's games										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Tampa Bay (Acher 7-6) at Chicago Cubs (Wada 1-1)																			
Tampa Bay (Acher 7-6) at Chicago Cubs (Wada 1-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cleveland (Bauer 4-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Unediced)																			
Cleveland (Bauer 4-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Unediced)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										St. Louis (Masterson 1-0) at Philadelphia (Tilman 8-5)																			
St. Louis (Masterson 1-0) at Philadelphia (Tilman 8-5)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Detroit (An Sanchez 8-5) at Toronto (Oltz 9-1)																			
Detroit (An Sanchez 8-5) at Toronto (Oltz 9-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			
San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)																			
Seattle (Webster 1-1) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)																			
Cincinnati (Gibson 10-8) at Oakland (Kazmir 12-6)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)																			
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 6-7) at Philadelphia (St. Louis 10-9) at Pittsburgh (Worley 4-1)										Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2										Philadelphia 2, Houston 1										San Francisco (Bumgarner 13-8) at Texas (Mikolas 1-4) at Houston (Berkholder 4-7)																			



## MLB

# Capuano outpitches Verlander in Yanks' win



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher Chris Capuano allowed five hits and one unearned run with eight strikeouts in 6½ innings against the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees rallied to beat the Tigers 5-1 and former Cy Young Award winner Justin Verlander.

By DOUG GOULD  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees are outpitching some of baseball's best pitchers.

Facing the third successive Cy Young recipient in the last three games, the Yankees rode a superior performance from starter Chris Capuano and Adam Warren to a 5-1 victory over Justin Verlander and the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday night, their second win in the series.

Capuano allowed five hits and an unearned run with eight strikeouts in 6½ innings, leaving with the game tied at 1. Warren (2-5) worked out of an eighth-inning jam created by a walk and two errors after the Yankees had taken a 2-1 lead on Brian McCann's homer in the seventh inning.

"I've seen him do this before and that was one of the reasons we went and got him," manager Joe Girardi said of Capuano, who has gone at least six innings in all three of his starts since being acquired from the Rockies on July 24th. "If I'm not mistaken, he did it to us last year here. He does know how to pitch, and he gave us a great performance tonight."

Chase Headley also homered for the Yankees, whose streak of 16 consecutive games decided by two-or-fewer runs ended when they broke out for three runs in the eighth against reliever Blaine Hardy.

Mark Teixeira injured his hand when he was spiked by catcher Bryan Holaday while scoring the Yankees' final run on a slide at home plate. Teixeira, called out by home plate umpire Tom Woodring but ruled safe on a review, sustained a deep cut near his left pinky and will not play in Thursday's

matinee finale of the four-game set.

"It (the cut) was pretty bad," said Teixeira, who was replaced at first base in the ninth by Headley. "I took one look and looked away. Steve (trainer Steve Donohue) rushed me up here, we got it cleaned up and got the stitches in there."

"You play hard, that's what happens. I'm just happy about the win. It was a great team win."

As they did in Tuesday's 4-3 victory, the Tigers scored in the first inning via the sacrifice fly, with Rajai Davis reaching on Derek Jeter's error.

That was all Detroit could generate against Capuano, Warren and David Huff, who pitched a perfect ninth.

"He was changing speeds, heights, location," Tigers third baseman Nick Castellanos said about Capuano. "He wasn't really giving anybody the same looks two times in a row. If he thought you were leaning, kind of diving for that changeup, you'd get a heater in. Both McCann and Capuano had a great night tonight."

Verlander (10-10) retired the first 11 Yankees he faced before surrendering a two-out single to center by Jacoby Ellsbury in the fourth. Headley deposited a 2-2 fastball into the right-field stands with out in the fifth for his ninth homer and second as a Yankee to tie it at 1, and it remained deadlocked until McCann belted his 13th homer on a 1-2 pitch with one out in the seventh.

"I'm not going to dwell on two homers," said Verlander, who allowed five hits and one walk with five strikeouts in seven innings. "Headley's was gone anywhere. McCann's probably not in a lot of places, but, overall it was a good game."

## Roundup

# Mariners send Braves to 8th consecutive defeat

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Without waver, Chris Young will say it each time he is asked: Individual wins are not important to him. It's about the team's success, the veteran right-hander says, going to painstaking lengths to get his point across.

Young reached his first double-digit win total in a season since 2006 on Wednesday, but it truly was a team effort this time around as the Seattle Mariners sent the Atlanta Braves to a season-high eighth straight loss with a 7-3 victory at Safeco Field.

It is the first time since May 2012 that the Braves, who were swept at Dodger Stadium and San Diego before losing two straight at Safeco Field, have lost eight in a row.

"You can't get caught up in wins and losses as a starting pitcher. One day the media will stop evaluating us on that," Young said with a laugh.

Young (10-6), who allowed all three runs in the third, was immediately picked up by his teammates, as the Mariners responded with a four-run third.

Dustin Ackley led off with a

home run and Logan Morrison added a three-run shot off Julio Teheran (10-8) for a 5-3 lead.

Teheran was wildly inconsistent in six innings, yielding six runs in three frames, while allowing just one baserunner in the other three innings.

**Padres 5, Twins 4:** Center fielder Alexi Amarista made a game-saving catch in the bottom of the ninth inning, and Seth Smith followed with a solo homer in the 10th to lift visiting San Diego over Minnesota.

**Rangers 3, White Sox 1:** Adam Rosales homered twice in a game for the first time in his career and Nick Tepesch pitched scoreless ball into the sixth inning, leading Texas over Chris Sale and host Chicago.

**Rays 7, Athletics 3:** Kevin Kiermaier hit a two-run homer to help Jeremy Hodkinson end a six-start winless stretch for his first victory in 11 months, and Tampa Bay avoided a sweep against host Oakland.

**Phillies 10, Astros 3:** Chase Utley hit a three-run homer and Ben Revere had four hits, including a triple, to lead Philadelphia over visiting Houston.



ELANE THOMPSON/AP

The Mariners' Logan Morrison, right, is congratulated by Chris Taylor on his three-run homer against the Atlanta Braves in the third inning on Wednesday in Seattle. The Mariners won 7-3.

**Pirates 7, Marlins 3:** Josh Harrison had three hits to extend his hot streak, and Jeff Locke overcame a shaky start to pitch seven innings as host Pittsburgh beat Miami.

**Nationals 7, Mets 1:** Doug Fister (11-3) took a five-hit shutout into the eighth inning, Adam La-

Roche homered twice and Danny Espinosa also connected as Washington beat visiting New York.

**Blue Jays 5, Orioles 1:** Drew Hutchison came within one out of his second career complete game, Jose Bautista homered and drove in three runs, and host Toronto topped Baltimore to snap a four-

game losing streak.

**Reds 8, Indians 3:** Mat Latos (4-3) pitched shutout ball into the eighth inning and chipped in with a hit as Cincinnati opened a seven-game homestand with a win over visiting Cleveland.

**Giants 7, Brewers 4:** Michael Morse and Pablo Sandoval each drove in three runs to lead San Francisco over host Milwaukee.

**Red Sox 2, Cardinals 1:** Xander Bogaerts drove in two runs, including a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the ninth inning, as visiting Boston beat St. Louis.

**Rockies 13, Cubs 4:** Carlos Gonzalez homered, doubled and singled in his return to the lineup, and host Colorado snapped a five-game losing streak by beating Chicago.

**Royals 4, Diamondbacks 3:** Mike Moustakas homered and drove in four runs, Yorlano Ventura (9-8) pitched six solid innings, and Kansas City edged host Arizona to win its fifth consecutive series.

**Dodgers 2, Angels 1:** Dan Haren pitched third-hall ball into the eighth inning and Matt Kemp homered in the host Dodgers' victory over the Angels.

## PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

## Woods sprays way through first day

By PAUL NEWBERY

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Maybe Tiger Woods should have stayed at home.

Looking much like a guy playing just his 11th competitive round since back surgery, Woods was spraying shots all over Valhalla and playing himself out of contention at the PGA Championship before heavy favorite Rory McIlroy even teed off Thursday.

Woods yanked one shot into the gallery, and put another into a creek.

"Oh, for... sake, Tiger!" he yelled at himself on No. 2, muttering an obscenity after sending his tee shot near a creek, leading to a one-stroke penalty.

Woods underwent surgery March 31 and missed the first two majors of the year. He returned in time for the British Open, but struggled to his worst 72-hole finish in a major. Then he withdrew from the World Golf Championship at Firestone just four days ago after taking an awkward swing, hurting his back again.

He finally arrived at the PGA on Wednesday — with live television showing Woods parking his car and tying his golf shoes — and proclaimed himself fit.

It sure didn't look that way.

Starting on the back side, Woods bogeyed both of the par-3s after missing the green, though he did salvage an unlikely birdie at the 16th by holing out a wedge from more than 100 feet away.

But he missed a chance to make up more ground at the easy 18th, knocking his drive into a fairway bunker at the par-5 hole, and things really took a turn for the worse after Woods made the turn.

He just couldn't find any accuracy off the tee.

Woods drove one into a native area at the first, leading to a bogey. Then came another poor drive at the second, forcing him to take a drop and settle for his fourth bogey in 11 holes.

He was 3 over for the round and eight shots behind the early leaders.

Lee Westwood and Kevin Chappell shot 6-under 65 to share the early lead. Edoardo Molinari was two shots back. No one else was closer than three shots off the lead.

Ryder Cup hopeful Brendon Todd and perennial major contender Rickie Fowler led a group of players at 3 under.

This was a big week for Todd, who was 12th in the Ryder Cup standings and looking to push his way into an automatic spot

at the final qualifying event. The top nine after Sunday will make the team, before captain Tom Watson fills out his roster with three wild-card picks.

Fowler has finished in the top five at the first three majors this year, but is still seeking his first championship. He was runner-up at both the U.S. Open and British Open.

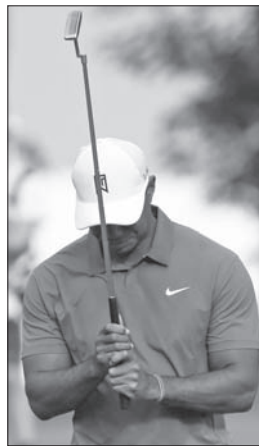
Phil Mickelson, playing in the same group as Woods for one of the rare times at a major, was 1 over. Lefty was just out of the mix for a Ryder Cup spot, though it's expected he would be a captain's choice if he doesn't qualify. Mickelson hasn't won in nearly 13 months, since his victory at the 2013 British Open.

This is his longest drought since 2003.

Everyone seemed to be chasing McIlroy, who was the overwhelming favorite coming off wins at the British Open and at Firestone. The three-time major champion had an afternoon tee time.

One player who won't be winning: Matt Kuchar, who withdrew just before teeing off because of back spasms.

John Huh took Kuchar's place and joined the threesome with Louis Oosthuizen and Justin Rose.



JOHN LOCHER/AP

**Tiger Woods reacts to his putt on the 10th hole during the first round of the PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club on Thursday in Louisville, Ky.**

## Garcia back in the mix for major championships

By DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — The only thing worse than being mentioned as the best player without a major is to not be mentioned at all.

Sergio Garcia is back in the conversation.

The 34-year-old Spaniard is No. 3 in the world, his highest ranking in five years. He has arrived at Valhalla for the PGA Championship after a pair of runner-up finishes. He briefly challenged Rory McIlroy at the British Open and then lost a three-shot lead to McIlroy at Firestone.

Fifteen years after his first close call at a major, Garcia looks as poised as ever.

"It's been a good year," Garcia said. "Obviously, a lot of high finishes, some really good chances of winning tournaments. Unfortunately, it's only happened once this year, in Qatar, but I'm excited about it."

"It's another big week here in Valhalla. We're going to try to do more of the same and keep playing well and see if we can be there again on Sunday and have another good chance."

Just his luck, there always seems to be one guy doing a little bit better.

For years, that was Tiger Woods. Garcia was 19 when he nearly chased Woods down in the 1999 PGA Championship at Medinah. He played with him in the final group of the 2002 U.S. Open at Bethpage Black and in the final group of the 2006 British Open at Royal Liverpool.

Woods hasn't won a major in six years. And now Garcia has to contend with McIlroy.

"I wouldn't say bad timing," said Garcia, with a smile. "I think



MIKE GROLL/AP

**Sergio Garcia, of Spain, watches his tee shot on the 15th hole during a practice round for the PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club on Wednesday in Louisville, Ky. The tournament is set to begin on Thursday. The 34-year-old Spaniard is No. 3 in the world, his highest ranking in five years.**

playing well, it's always great. And if somebody else is playing better than you, there's nothing you can do. ...The only thing I can

do is try to play the best I can. If I manage to do that, I know that I've shown that I can play really, really well. But if somebody else

plays better, the only thing I can do is congratulate him and move on."

That's what he did at Hoylake

two weeks ago. He played in the group ahead of McIlroy at The Open, and ran up to hug him in the scoring trailer when McIlroy completed his two-shot victory.

It wasn't always that way. Garcia struggled to lose as gracefully as he won, such as the British Open at Carnoustie in 2007 when he lost a playoff to Padraig Harrington and blamed it on bad breaks, suggesting he was playing against "more than the field."

He looks as happy as ever, in part because of the group around him and girlfriend Katharina Boehm, a German who played college golf in the United States. So which comes first? Does happiness lead to good golf or does good golf make him happy?

"A bit of both," Garcia said. "Obviously, I feel like things around me are right where I want them to be, and that obviously puts me in a nicer situation when I go on to the golf course. And then ... don't get me wrong — it's not just good playing because of happiness. It's work and confidence and all those things."

"I've had some really nice things happen to me on the golf course and things that keep your round going. All those things kind of put together make up for the happiness and the good play."

Garcia looked so much at ease that happiness might no longer depend on whether he can call himself a major champion. He believes he felt a greater sense of urgency to win a major when he was in his early 20s and contending for them more regularly. Now, not so much.

"Like I've always said, if I get to 45 and I haven't won one, then I'll probably start worrying a little more," he said. "But I don't know. Hopefully, that won't happen."

## PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

## THE LONG GAME

## PGA host courses that end with par 5

By DOUG FERGUSON  
The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky.

**T**he typical closing hole for major championships is a long, challenging par 4 that makes it difficult for someone to protect his lead with par.

The most exciting closing holes are the par 5s.

It's rare to have two majors in one year that end with a par 5 — Pebble Beach and Valhalla in 2000, for example — and even rarer to have back-to-back majors end with a par 5. Royal Liverpool is the only links course on the Open rotation that ends in a par 5.

There wasn't much exciting at Hoylake the past two times because Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy had the tournament in hand.

Valhalla is a different. It was the decisive hole in the past two PGA Championships here, both times in a playoff. In fact, just about every time the PGA Championship is held on a course that ends with a par 5, that becomes the decisive hole.

Here are five of them:

#### 5. SIWANOW

The inaugural PGA Championship was held in 1916 at Siwanoy Country Club in New York, and it turned into a dandy championship match between Jim Barnes and Jock Hutchison that was decided on the last hole.

Hutchison led most of the 36-hole match, but he missed a 5-footer on the 35th hole to leave it tied with the par-5 18th remaining.

Both hit their second shots just short of the green and pitched up to about 5 feet away, so close that an official was called out to measure the distance to see who was away. Hutchison was about an inch farther away and missed another 5-footer. Barnes knocked in his putt and won his first PGA Championship.

He never gets much credit as the first repeat winner of the PGA, mainly because the championship was not held again until 1919 because of World War I.

#### 4. PGA NATIONAL

The PGA Championship first went to its Florida headquarters in 1971 when it was held in February, making it the first major of the year. Jack Nicklaus won wire-to-wire, closing with a 73 for a two-shot victory.

It was far more dramatic in 1987 when the PGA was held in the heat of August.

Larry Nelson and Lanny Wadkins finished at 1-under 287, neither making birdie on the par-5 closing hole with a chance to win. Nelson won in a sudden-death playoff, though that took place at No. 10.

Overlooked at this PGA was the first blown chance by Scott Hoch. He was well off ahead of the final group and had an 8-foot birdie putt for a 67 — no one shot better than 69 the last day — that surely would have given him his first major. Hoch missed the 8-foot birdie putt — and then missed from 3 feet for a bogey that ultimately left him one shot out of the playoff.

Two years later, Hoch would miss a more famous 3-foot birdie putt at the Masters against Nick Faldo.



#### 3. PEBBLE BEACH

The 1977 PGA Championship was held at Pebble Beach for the only time, just five years after Pebble hosted its first U.S. Open. Gene Littler, out of golf for six weeks

because of a back injury, returned at the PGA and appeared to be headed to an easy victory until a collapse on the back-nine when he lost a four-shot lead.

Lanny Wadkins, who started the final round six shots behind, made his only birdie of the final round on the par-5 18th to close with a 70 and force a playoff when Littler had to settle for par on the closing hole.

Wadkins won with a par on the third extra hole.

It was the first time a major had been decided by sudden death. Back then, the playoff began on the first hole. It wasn't until 1993 that a sudden-death playoff at the PGA Championship began on the 18th hole.

#### 2. BALTUSROL

At Baltusrol, two is better than one. The New Jersey course closed with back-to-back par 5s, and that was decisive for Phil Mickelson in the 2005 PGA Championship.

He was tied for the lead in the final round when he drilled his tee shot on the 554-yard closing hole, perhaps the most critical shot. That left Mickelson a 3-wood to try to reach the green, and for an extra dose of luck, he walked forward and tapped the plaque that commemorates the 1-iron Jack Nicklaus hit in 1967 when he won the U.S. Open.

Mickelson's shot was just right of the green, and he chipped to 2 feet, raising his arms because he knew he had won. He tapped it in for birdie and his lone PGA title.

#### 1. VALHALLA

Valhalla Golf Club might be viewed as among the more ordinary championship sites, though no one can argue with the drama.

Kenny Perry had a two-shot lead in the 1996 PGA Championship, playing before a home Kentucky crowd, when he hit his tee shot on the par-5 18th well to the left and made bogey. Mark Brooks made birdie to force a playoff, and Brooks beat him in the playoff when Perry again failed to find the fairway.

Nothing topped 2000, however. Tiger

Woods, going for his third consecutive major, was tied for the lead and had a 6-foot birdie putt on the 18th. That putt became even more critical when Bob May knocked in an 18-foot birdie putt. Woods had to make it or his unprecedented sweep in the majors would not have happened. He made the putt to force the first three-hole playoff in PGA history. On the 18th in the playoff, Woods got up-and-down from a bunker for par to win by one.

## No. 18 AT VALHALLA

A large bunker protects the left side of the fairway, with a pond down the right side. A decent shot will allow most players to go for the green. The second shot needs to come in high to an elevated green with a bunker guarding the entire front portion. The green has severe sloping that runs from the upper portion to the lower left and right levels.

AP illustration is schematic; SOURCES: Valhalla Golf Club, AP.



## SPORTS



## Five to finish

Valhalla one of few major courses with par-5 finishing hole | **Page 31**

## NFL

## CIRCUIT TRAINING

By RACHEL COHEN  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK

**N**FL teams used to take Polaroid pictures of plays from atop the stadium during games then send them down to the field on a rope.

Technology improved so that an automated camera could deliver the images to a printer on the sideline, creating that familiar sight of a quarterback staring at a sheet of paper to figure out what went wrong on an interception.

That was still the case last season, when fans in the stands could watch highlights on their smartphones, but players and coaches were flipping through three-ring binders of black-and-white photos.

The NFL sideline is finally catching up.  
Sort of.

Tablets were allowed for the first time Sunday night with the Hall of Fame game, although a few kinks had to be worked out early on.

"I was told mine was going to work, and mine didn't work," Bills coach Doug Marrone said after his team lost 17-13 to the New York Giants. "They said they would get it right and there was miscommunication."

Marrone said that the tablet did work in the second half and he "liked it a lot."

The tablets won't exactly

NFL sideline tech enters digital age with introduction of specialized tablets

be running the most cutting-edge apps. The devices will replicate the old system of transmitting still photos to the field — but faster, clearer and in color.

No surfing the Web. No selfies or tweets. And more important from a football standpoint: no watching replays of the last snap.

"The purity of the game has always been not having video," Tennessee Titans coach Ken Whisenhunt said. "So when you're looking at pictures you have to sometimes guess, or a lot

of times the pictures aren't what really exactly happened. That part of it is still coaching, and I kind of like that."

SEE CIRCUIT ON  
PAGE 25

Microsoft Surface tablets were allowed on NFL sidelines for the first time last Sunday during the Hall of Fame game in Canton, Ohio, though they weren't exactly running the most cutting-edge apps.

MICROSOFT, ORANGELV HOLDINGS LLC/AP



Deal in place to send Love to Cavs  
Sports briefs, Page 25

Capuano, Yanks top Verlander  
MLB, Page 29

